

*J. H. Harris Davis
4th Exam Course*

THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

A WORKING CLERGY.

SOME men appear to be wonderfully struck with the importance of elevating the church to a position of gentlemanly dignity. They take it for granted, with a strange mixture of simplicity and impiety, that divine truth would cut but a sorry figure in this world but for aristocratic patronage. It cannot be expected, say they, that under the voluntary principle men of high family and noble blood should take "holy orders." These men must be allured into the clerical office by the prospect of an income somewhat more becoming their exalted station, more certain, too, of continuance, than Christian willingness would be disposed to give. The pitiful offerings of an ordinary congregation would be far beneath their notice, and the church of Christ, unsustained by state endowments, would instantly lose their valuable countenance. This objection to the voluntary principle wearing, as it does, so much the air of a joke, has been gravely advanced, again and again, by learned ecclesiastical dignitaries. Nothing but the solemnity of the speakers can save them from the charge of uttering irony. Very condescending! very! and so disinterested too, in these descendants of the aristocracy, to cast over poor, vulgar, helpless Christianity the mantle of their respectability, and lend it the advantage of their names! How extremely amiable in these porcelain specimens of humanity to allow themselves to be set apart for such mean uses! That ever lords and right honourable sons of lords should be induced to meddle with spiritual teaching—what a miracle of humility! Ah! surely they ought to receive a rich reward! The depth of their debasement ought to be the measure whereby to fix the scale of their pecuniary compensation! Such splendid results nothing but the compulsory system could compass.

The objection, we take it, is not worth much—it does not cut singularly deep—but, so far as it goes, it must be admitted to be unanswerable. If patronage be needed to secure the success of the gospel, the voluntary principle, we confess, will prove a failure. We suspect it would not pay very munificently for the advantage of great names and lordly smiles—and if such names and smiles can be bought only with extravagant incomes, the church would, under this system, be compelled to do its best without them. We must leave our readers to weigh the predicted evil, and when they have done so, we beg them to put into the opposite scale, and to observe which preponderates, the following considerations.

Christianity, as a scheme of doctrine and practice, requires, in order to its successful promulgation, that its teachers should, above every other qualification, possess a sincere and profound attachment to the truth they proclaim. It is itself a great, earnest, awful reality. It professes to be, and is, an embodiment of facts, in their own character perfectly astounding, and in their bearing upon human destinies momentous beyond conception. Nothing, consequently, can so ill assort with its tenour or its claims as a cold, professional, irreverential exposition and enforcement of them. He who has not himself trembled in view of its unspeakable majesty, who has never, in its presence, been rapt in adoring wonder, who has never gazed, dumb with admiration, at its surpassing beauty, never wept forth his heart's homage to its tenderness, never glowed under the kindlings of its love, will prove a miserably inefficient instructor in the department of spiritual things. Who but a lover can paint the fears, joys, anxieties, raptures, of love? What but

"The poet's eye, in a fine frenzy rolling,

Glancing from earth to heaven, from heaven to earth," can discern the soul of nature, or see those visions of the exquisitely fair in the material world, which it is his calling to transfer to song? The first qualification demanded of a teacher of any given science is fond and reverential devotion to it. Without this, his lectures are nothing better than straw. But if this be so, what shall we say of the swarm of fashionable triflers who, having never felt a single emotion which can be dignified with the epithet *religious*—the springs of whose moral sensibilities lying beyond the ken even of their own consciousness, too deep for notice, too central to have been unsealed by any thought which has hitherto found its way into their hearts—what shall we say of

these men, dandling with *nonchalance* the solemnities of revelation, and having, week by week, their superficial and dogmatical say, about objects the greatest with which human minds can be conversant?

The value of the voluntary principle is, that it sets open a door for the labours of men, whose hearts care for Christianity more than for self, and that it offers small inducement to those who seek self rather than Christianity—it provides subsistence, scanty, it may be, but yet sufficient, for those who desire a temporal maintenance *in order to* the uninterrupted study and stated proclamation of the truth—whose religion, not their worldly interest, has prompted them to undertake the responsibilities of the ministry. And this is the only class of teachers worth having. The *gentlemen* who do their work, but do not enjoy their pay, by proxy—who must have a working clergy under them to tend the souls which they assume to have been committed to their exclusive care—of what earthly use are they, save to dine at the squire's, and to ride out with the squire's lady; or, at best, to superintend the distribution of some parochial charity, or to respond to the toast, "Church and king," at a political dinner? The voluntary principle would very speedily dismiss these idlers to a profession more befitting their ordinary character and their habitual tone of mind. But would it repel a single individual whose soul, touched with true benevolence, longed to impart to others what has attracted and fixed his own supreme regard? Would it prove an obstacle to any but the insincere? or exclude from the sacred office any who love the work for the work's sake? Now, none but such are fitting, or can be successful, teachers of Christianity. The system we advocate would afford to such men full scope to follow out their heart's choice, and to devote themselves exclusively to the exposition of divine truth. The *worst* that can be said of it is that it would furnish no sinecures for the benefit of ecclesiastical drones.

Thus have we, then, according to our ability, demonstrated the harmony of the voluntary principle with the primary features of man, considered in his individual capacity. That, between the mode resorted to for the maintenance of religious institutions, and the main and ineradicable characteristics of the human mind, there should be a very obvious agreement, more especially taking into due account, the precise object of such institutions, appeared, as many of our readers will recollect, not only reasonable but necessary. How then stands the case, in this instance, as it respects both the taught and the teacher? Does this method of sustaining and extending the means of religious instruction offer violence to any of those laws which usually control the hearts of men? If men do efficiently only what their will prompts them to do—if an instinctive passion compels them to tend with more earnest assiduity whatever they can regard as, in some sense, *their own*—if a sense of responsibility usually ripens into a performance of duty—if those appeals are most successful which single men out and set them apart from the crowd, and specifically address them as individuals—if we follow most readily where reason leads the way—if we act most energetically when faith inspires the breast—if it be important, in diffusing Christian truth, to bring out, into play, and to strengthen by exercise, the nobler, the more generous and exalted capabilities of man—then is the voluntary principle no despicable thing; for in all these respects it harmonises with human tendencies and characteristics. And the system which is thus efficient for, and consonant with, the taught, is not less nicely adapted to secure efficiency in the teacher. It offers to him no peculiar temptation to lower the standard of truth—it trenches not upon the proper boundaries of self-respect—and whilst it holds out very slender encouragement to those whose chief aim is a living, it opens the door of office to all who prize Christianity above lucre. We now bid adieu to this department of our subject—and shall, next week, enter upon a survey of the harmony of the voluntary principle with THE SOCIAL NATURE AND POSITION OF MAN.

HACKNEY CHURCH RATE CASE.—In the Arches' court on Monday last, Sir H. Jenner Fust delivered his judgment in this case, which was an appeal from the Consistory court of London, in a cause of subtraction of church rate, promoted by the churchwardens of St John, Hackney, against Mr Nunn, a parishioner, the amount sued for being 3s. 4d. The sentence appealed from rejected the allegation in op-

position to the rate, the learned judge in the court below holding that it pleaded no sufficient grounds to invalidate the rate. The question principally turned upon the construction of the local acts relating to the pulling down and rebuilding the parish church, in conjunction with the church building acts, under which the original parish had been divided into three separate and distinct parishes. A very full report of the judgment in the court below was given in this paper. The learned Dean of the Arches now affirmed that judgment upon every point, pronounced against the appeal, and condemned the appellant in the costs.

NORWICH CHURCH RATE CASE.—On the same day this case was also heard. Our readers will remember that on the 11th of November last, this case came before Sir H. Jenner Fust, dean of the Arches, on joint letters of request from the archdeaconry and commissary courts of Norwich. The question then determined was, whether joint letters of request could be received. The Court determined that they could not, and their reception was consequently refused. New letters were then presented from the Consistorial court at Norwich, at the instance of Mr Edward Steward, against Mr John Francis, a parishioner of the parish of St George of Colegate, Norwich, the citation called upon him to answer certain articles "for having wilfully and contumaciously obstructed, or at least refused to make, or join, or concur in, the making of a sufficient rate or assessment for providing funds, in order to defray the expense of the necessary repairs of the parish church." To this citation an appearance was given under protest, alleging that the citation assigned no ecclesiastical offence; that the obstructing the making of a rate was not such an offence, and the alternative, of refusing to make or concur in making a rate, was perfectly innocent, unless it were stated that the church was thereby left without means of repair or in a dilapidated state. The question almost entirely turned upon the case of "Cooper v. Wickham," 2 Curt., 303, in which this Court was supposed to have decided the very point. Dr Burnaby and Dr Hardinge spoke in support of the protest, and the Queen's Advocate, Dr Phillimore, and Dr Addams against it. The arguments were confined to the technical point in dispute, but the question is one of the most important which has yet come before the Court. Should the judge ultimately decide in favour of the churchwardens, every person who votes against a church rate, will be liable to excommunication for his soul's health, and the correction of his manners and excesses.

ALDGATE.—CHURCH RATES.—Yesterday a very full vestry meeting of the parish of St Botolph without, Aldgate, took place in the committee room, Houndsditch, for the purpose of making a church rate, so as to pay the sum of £1,006 12s. 1d., due for the completion of the repairs of the parish church. At eleven o'clock the chair was taken by Mr Churchwarden Parker, who observed that last year a church rate of sixpence in the pound was levied for the necessary repairs of the church, and a Mr Furaival accepted the contract to complete those repairs at such a sum as that rate would produce. Those works had been completed, and the contractor now requires the above sum for extra work done; and in proof of what he asserts, he has commenced an action against the late parochial officers for the recovery of it. He, the chairman, considered that it would be a great injustice on their part, were parish officers to be called upon to pay the amount, and he, therefore, deemed it necessary to recommend the parish to allow a church rate—a threepenny one would cover it. Mr Nathan remarked, that it was very unfair to call on the parishioners under these circumstances. A church rate, at all times, was most obnoxious, but to call for one on the present ground was quite unjustifiable. A stormy discussion now ensued, as to the legality or illegality of making a rate for such purposes, which at last ended by the meeting being adjourned, for the purpose of having laid before them an account of the alleged extra work done to the church.

CHURCH RATES.—On Thursday the 19th instant a church-rate contest took place at Taunton. A motion for a rate of twopence in the pound was put by the chairman, and declared to be lost. A poll was then demanded, which at its close gave for the rate, 460; against it, 313; majority, 147.

A GENEROUS POLICEMAN.—The superintendent of police at Hexham, one evening during the present month, stopped a citizen in the street, and expressed a wish to make him a present of half a crown, which he actually tendered in the presence of a witness. Such an act of generosity is unusual, and may need to be explained. In a recent case of distraint for church rate, between the auctioneer and the policeman, a charge was made which could not be sustained by law, though all church rate is overcharge. The latter official being brought before the lamp and watch inspectors was admonished to refund the

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money. The churchwardens (Mr Stephen French in particular) had strictly forbidden him to give up any part of it. He went and offered it to the auctioneer, but no, even Wilson would not, durst not touch it. Thus having got himself into a "hobble," as he said, he was fain to make the party he had wronged a "present" of his own money: in other words, to disgorge a portion of the prey he had swallowed.—*From a Correspondent.*

THE BIBLE SOCIETY.—A respectable correspondent, who gives us his name and address, has sent us the following: "Your paper of last week refers to the Bible society and cheap circulation, and you seem at a loss to know wherefore measures were not adopted to destroy the monopoly. The reply is, as given to me by one of its own agents, who opposed some observations in favour of free circulation not long since at a town in the midland counties—'Had not the monopoly been first attacked by dissenters it would have been taken up by the society; but being a dissenters' movement the committee were afraid to offend their subscribers, as 'the church' party contributes most to its funds.' This statement was made in private to me by the agent above alluded to, as a kind of apology for the most ungentlemanly treatment I received from him in public. If it be true, it is fatal to the society, for it declares, as with a tongue of brass, that there is 'rotteness at the core.' I made known this statement to Dr Campbell the day it was known he received his D.D.; but I fear degrees in such matters have something like the effect of titles in others, viz., to place a man in a high position in order to deprive him of his freedom of action."

PUSEYISM AND THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.—The Tract society and other kindred institutions seem to be the especial objects of attack on the part of the Puseyites, probably on account of the vast amount of counteractive influence they wield in opposition to their popish dogmas. Thus says the Rev. F. N. Knollis, in a publication called, "The Sling and the Stone," on this subject—

"Nor can I refrain from warning all persons to be most careful to peruse, before distribution, and from time to time to improve and alter the publications of that 'Religious Tract Society,' which deliberately, in the very teeth of all these solemn prohibitions, tries to unite Judah and Samaria; and suppresses always, even where it does no worse, parts of those solemn truths which Christ ordered to be taught!!! and which the catholic church has in all ages dutifully received. I do not wish to be misunderstood; I do not deny that many of these tracts are most excellent as far as they go; but I do maintain that the principle of them all is most false and defective; and further, that many of the tracts themselves are most erroneous in their statements, and dangerous in their consequences. For purity is placed after principle, and truth after peace. And I defy any, even of the staunchest supporters of such an association, to declare that it has not failed to set before the contributors the whole counsel of God. The authority of the Christian ministry, the necessity of the two sacraments to salvation, the doctrines of infant and regenerating baptism, the benefits of confirmation, the difference between catholicity and schism, and the nature of the visible church, are points either untouched or misrepresented in all its publications."

PUSEYISM AT THORVERTON.—The Rev. Dr Coleridge, together with our new Scotch curate, the Rev. — Maclachlan, have entirely altered the church service, revised and altered the singing, and a variety of other movements are on foot; but the old people, who are not over-learned, do not know what to make of it. They conclude that the Parsons are Mesmerised; and they anticipate the introduction of mass in a few weeks, as "Lady Fursdon," of Fursdon house, Cadbury, has made the church a present of a pair of very high burnished candlesticks, which we hear are forbidden to be used, except on very special occasions; and we understand that they are to be used when mass is said.—*Western Times.*

PUSEYISM IN DISS.—A correspondent sends us the following:—"The curate we have here is a nice sample of Puseyism: he preaches baptismal regeneration about every other Sunday. In saying the belief he always turns towards the east, and expects his congregation to do the same. A Sunday or two back he told his congregation in very plain terms how wrong it was not to kneel, bow, and attend to all the formal ceremonies which the church so strictly enforces the observance of, and which it is their duty to perform. And last week, to sum up the whole, he said every dissenter in Diss ought to be burnt. This was on account of a poor woman having taken her children away from the National school and sent them to the Wesleyan. He has also persuaded a great many respectable, and it was thought, sensible, persons to decline subscribing to a benevolent society because the visitors connected with it are required to pray with all the sick poor who receive alms out of its funds. This the curate thinks is highly improper for any one to do that has not taken 'holy orders'; and if any one pray, they ought only to pray for such things as they find written therein."

PUSEYISM IN TUXFORD.—Under this heading a correspondent of the *Stamford Mercury* gives an account of the progress of Puseyism in that village. The vicar, it appears, is a thorough Puseyite, and lately declared that there were but three true churches in the world—the Roman catholic church, the Greek church, and the church of England, and who ever worshipped God out of these, "risked the salvation of his soul." The velvet of the pulpit is now decorated with a golden cross—a boy in white surplice is now to chant, and do the angelic part. The vicar proposes to throw open all the pews of the parsonage, and make them common property.

This intention has aroused the ire of his flock, and many of them threaten to go no more inside the church. A placard has been posted up in the place, calling upon the "protestants of Tuxford" to arise and defend their sacred rights, bequeathed by their forefathers. "Your country has long been menaced by the intrigues of popery, but now your own sanctuary is polluted by popish superstition: your seats, to which yourselves and ancestors have liberally contributed, are now about to be wrested from you by Je-suitical intolerance."

CONVOCATION OF THE CLERGY.—A requisition, numerously signed by the clergy, was lately presented to the Archdeacon of Totnes, requesting him to convene a meeting of the clergy of his archdeaconry, "for the purpose of considering the expediency of adopting measures, with the view of obtaining for the church the restoration of her synodical rights." In compliance with this request, the Archdeacon convened a meeting of the clergy, at Totnes, on Friday last, which was numerously attended. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Prebendary Oxenham, the Revds J. Yonge, H. F. Lyte, Robert Lampen, C. Wolston, and the Rev. Prebendary Luney, who, at the request of the Archdeacon, submitted to the meeting the draft of a memorial, which, after due consideration, was unanimously adopted. The memorial will be published as soon as it has been presented to the Bishop, to whom it is addressed. The clergy of the archdeaconry of Cornwall are about to meet for the same purpose.—*Western Times.*

THE BISHOP OF WORCESTER AND PEWS.—It was only last week that we published the important letter of the Bishop of Norwich on the subject of pews; it is, therefore, with no ordinary pride and exultation, that we inform our readers that another of the episcopal bench, viz. the Bishop of Worcester, has expressed opinions similar to those of the Bishop of Norwich, his lordship, as well as the Archdeacon of Worcester, having declared the seats in the parish church of Coventry to be equally the property of the parishioners.—*British Queen.*

THE WESLEYANS.—We have authority for stating that the recent persecution of the Wesleyans in the neighbourhood of Lincoln, and other places, has caused great change amongst them with regard to their policy at elections; and are assured that henceforth the Wesleyans may be looked forward to as a body whose influence will be thrown on the side of the advance of civil and religious liberty. They are satisfied with the first sign of the unaltered disposition of the fox that flattered before the last election; and, unlike the crow, will not, by attempting to give proof of their friendliness to the church, sacrifice their own religious liberty.—*Stamford Mercury.*

SCOTCH CHURCH QUESTION.—A very important circumstance has occurred in the features of this question since Sir J. Graham's letter to the moderator was published. On Friday last, in giving his opinion in another church case, Lord Jeffery (whose elaborate opinion in defence of the veto has been always held up by the leaders of the dominant party in the Assembly as the best statement of their case, and of the principles on which they hold the judgments of the House of Lords to be an invasion of their independence) declared, in most distinct terms, that he was now satisfied that the case had been rightly decided by the court of Session and by the House of Lords—that the church had gone against the provisions of the statute law of the land—and that the courts had jurisdiction to restrain that excess of power. We look on this declaration as of great importance in regard to any petition to parliament complaining of these judgments as against the constitution of the church, or to any intention to secede on that ground.—*Times.*

THE NON-INTRUSIONISTS.—We rejoice to understand that arrangements are in progress for immediately and universally commencing to make provision for places of worship and the support of the ministry, in the event of the apprehended disruption; and that a matured plan will be submitted to the meeting of elders, to be held on the 1st of February. We understand that a meeting of such members as may, for prayer and consultation, have arrived, will be held on Monday evening, at eight o'clock, in the Queen street rooms. Many matters connected with the present duty and future prospects of the church will form proper subjects of consideration among the brethren who may assemble in Edinburgh on this eventful crisis.—*Edinburgh Witness.*

Sir James Graham's note to Dr Gordon, acknowledging the receipt of the minute of special commission in reply to Sir James's letter is, we understand, to this effect:—"Sir James Graham loses not a moment in acknowledging receipt of Dr Gordon's reply to his letter; and, as the church have appealed the matter to parliament, he feels it unnecessary to correspond further with the commission on the subject."—*Edinburgh Witness.*

Correspondence.

EXPENSES OF THE BIBLE SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—I hope your account of the printers, binders, &c. for the Bible society, may produce an effect in the right quarter; I have thought it may not be amiss to put in contrast with that, the following items, which appear in the report for 1841.

SALARIES.		
Dr Pinkerton.....	£400	0
Traveling expenses	85	0
Rev. H. D. Leevs	300	0
Mr Benjamin Barker	200	0
M. de Resseusé	200	0
Mr G. D. Keyser	100	0

Dr Hæberlin	500	15	0
Rev. James Thomson	300	0	0
Traveling expenses	83	2	6
The late Mr Joseph Wheeler	225	0	0
Traveling expenses	188	2	4
To the trustees for his widow	150	0	0
Mr W. P. Tiddy	200	0	0
Traveling expenses	17	16	7
Mr George Barrow, one quarter	50	0	0
Traveling expenses	143	9	1
Expenses of the depository, clerks, ware-housemen, and porters	1,002	17	4
Salaries and expenses of clerks	310	16	6
Traveling expenses of visitors, secretaries, and agents	1,196	0	9
Rev. A. Brandram, secretary	300	0	0
Rev. G. Browne	300	0	0
Rev. J. Jowett, editor	300	0	0

In another part of the report—

For translating revising, and editing, in various languages	178	3	11
Mr C. S. Dudley	400	0	0
Mr W. Brackenbury	300	0	0
Mr T. J. Bourne	300	0	0
Mr T. Sanger	300	0	0
Rev. T. Phillips	300	0	0
Assistant secretary and accountant	300	0	0
Assistant foreign secretary	300	0	0
The depository	300	0	0

General disbursements, including salary of the messenger, and allowance for servant. 166 9 3

Are the public aware how their money is expended? It is not easily seen, unless looked after in the report, and the report itself is seen but by few, and the cash account seldom referred to by those who may have the report.

Would a man of business employ agents to such an extent, and at such salaries, to conduct such a concern, other things being equal? Would he not go the most certain and the most rapid way to ruin, and be speedily and justly branded with disgrace for his wickedness and folly? If so, what shall be said of professing Christians conducting a most benevolent institution—the best probably in existence—adopting such a lavish expenditure in one department; and in another, withholding from the working man his fair wages? On the one hand, it appears to me to be robbery; on the other, sacrifice of the worst kind. There would be no necessity for an increase in the price of bibles, &c., if the reduction in the expense had been made where it ought.

I am, yours, &c.,

JUSTITIA.

THE NON-INTRUSION QUESTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—I observe from your summary of the 18th inst, that you propose commenting upon our non-intrusion movement, and I am induced to forward to you the present communication, that you may have in view the feelings with which some Scotchmen regard that movement, and the effects which it has had, and may still be expected to have, on the general question of church establishments. The movement is certainly a very singular one, and which I believe to have at bottom truths regarding religion, churches, and establishments, very similar to those which you have laid before us in your "Sketch Book," and which you are now unfolding in your views of the voluntary principle. One of the strange effects of this movement is, the extraordinary confusion of parties which it has brought about; so that, while we have the liberal side of the establishment contending for a popular right, we find the whole liberal press, with all shades of dissenters, siding with that party who long rode rough shod over the kirk, and are well known to be as ultra in state politics as in church matters. I believe that this admits of a satisfactory explanation; but, as my present object is to afford you some information as to the probable effects of the discussion, I shall proceed at once to tell you candidly the change through which my own opinion has gone on the subject.

In the early part of the movement, I was a decided establishment man and non-intrusionist; and, having been accustomed to think with the evangelical side of the church, took an eager part in the discussion of the aggressive attacks made by the courts of law on the proceedings of the church. I considered that the proposition, "that no minister should be intruded on any congregation," was undeniably a fundamental principle of a Christian church, and thought that anything done by the kirk of Scotland in furtherance of that principle was rightly done, and that any attempt to interfere with the church in regard to it was *ultra vires* of the civil courts. In this spirit, and with this prepossession, I undertook the study of the subject; and, while I found no reason to alter my opinion of the famous declaration being a fundamental principle of a church scripturally constituted, I did find reason to change my views with regard to the application of this principle contended for by the non-intrusionists, and consequently my views with regard to the question of establishments. The theory of a Christian church taught me that the practice ought to be, at least, as liberal as our non-intrusionists contended for; but I found that such practice had never been the constitution of the church as by law established in Scotland. I found from the history of that church that it was indeed true that, from time to time, many good men had contended for the abolition or restriction of the exercise of patronage; but I found it equally true that their contendings had all been in vain; and that the civil power, so far from admitting the claims made, had declared and maintained its supremacy, and ever bound the yoke of patronage still stronger on the church's neck. I found, in short, that history justified and confirmed the conclusion at which *a priori*, and from a consideration of the circumstances, we might arrive, to wit, that the state endowed the church mainly with an eye to the patronage, and that it never had and never would part with it. Having arrived at this conclusion, the farther step was unavoidable to any one who was conscientiously convinced that a scripture church must be free, and own no head but the Lord Jesus Christ; and, therefore, I came to the opinion that the union between the church and state was inconsistent with the character and freedom of the former, and that the voluntary principle (as it has been called) affords the only sphere in which the principle of non-intrusion can, by free election, be reduced to practical effect.

I cannot intrude on your columns for the purpose of enlarging on this "conversion," or of vindicating it as I might do, but I think no apology will be necessary for giving you these few particulars, as I feel assured the

same course of reasoning is calculated to bring other minds to the same result—a result which it does not require the spirit of prophecy to predict will be attained by all our leading non-intrusionists very soon after they execute their contemplated secession.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,
Balgonie, Fife, Jan. 21, 1843. J. G. STUART.

COMPLETE SUFFRAGE, THE LORDS, AND THE THRONE.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR—I sincerely thank you for your remarks upon Mr Sturge's letter to the Editor of the *Ipswich Express*; and for your own candid opinions thereon. I have seen nothing so well calculated to gain the richer part of the middle classes of society to complete suffrage as that article. When men, circumstanced as Mr Sturge is, honestly declare that they only seek to reform, not destroy, the institutions of the country; and that complete suffrage is not only the best, but the only just means of doing so; rest assured, success is not far distant.

Wicked men, for base purposes, tell us complete suffrage would destroy the constitution; and many good men, friends of my own, acknowledge the justice of complete suffrage principles, but feared the object aimed at was republicanism. Thank God, your remarks will have settled that question.

On the subject of the corn laws I entertain views different to yours; I believe the agitation of this question is one of the most efficient means the cause has. Whether the League gain or lose it will be for our advantage. If they gain (which is next to impossible), the landed interest would become our best friends. If they lose (as it appears most certain they will), the middle classes must join us to secure their object.

I am, dear sir, yours obediently,
JAMES RICHARDSON.

Kennington, Jan. 28, 1843.

THE BIRMINGHAM CONFERENCE.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR—In the account of the proceedings of a public meeting held in Edinburgh, to receive the report of the delegates sent to the Birmingham conference, given by an able journal in this city, and transferred to your columns, I am reported to have said, that after Mr Lovett's amendment, I felt it to be my duty to agree to the separation, and to go with the minority, because, in the circumstances in which the two parties were placed, nothing but profitless discussion could ensue. In this statement a subsidiary, and not the primary, reason urged by me in favour of the separation which took place, is assigned, that should the charter have been taken as the basis of discussion in the conference instead of the bill of rights, the Complete Suffrage Union might have closed their labours. Suffragism might have been lost in chartism; but, that amalgamation would have contributed little to have recommended the cause to the consideration of the electoral body. At the same time it was obvious that many constituencies having appointed delegates to Birmingham, under imperfect impressions of the tenor of the addresses convening the conference, that convention, when assembled, found itself composed of two antagonist parties, differing in opinion as to the means best fitted for carrying into effect the great principles held by them both, and unavoidably tending to division.

I remain, yours,
J. DUNLOP.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR—Having felt placed in a position at the late conference, along with several of my friends, which was not only very painful to our feelings, but must have rendered us liable to misconstruction among the parties with whom we still wish to act, I trust you will kindly insert this brief statement of the grounds whereon the seceders appeared to us in error, and William Lovett deserving of support.

The conference in question was called in conformity with a pledge given by the April conference, under the following circumstances:—Lovett, Vincent, and many of the leading chartists came on that occasion, if not absolutely pledged, yet under a very stringent obligation, to have the people's charter fairly and fully discussed. None who were present on that occasion can forget the struggle which took place for the purpose of having the charter expressly named as the document for to discuss, which another conference was to be called, on condition of its consideration being then waived. The name was dropped, and the words "any documents" substituted in the resolution, through the earnest desire of Vincent, Lovett, O'Brien, and others, to preserve harmony, and prevent the conference from being abortive. The council of the Union, in accordance with this pledge, did summon another conference to meet last December, expressly in the very words of their invitation, "to prepare a bill," to "consider the essential details of an act of parliament," &c.; but, when the conference was assembled, it appeared that the council and some of their friends intended to make a bill, which they had prepared, the bill that (of course after being considered and amended by the conference) was to be presented to parliament. Now, if the conference chose to substitute this document for the people's charter, of course, it had a perfect right to do so; but, for one section to say they would withdraw (and thereby nullify the great objects for which so many persons had come so great a distance at a heavy expense), unless their document took precedence of every other, did appear to me thoroughly wrong. Had the council stated in their address they intended to act thus, it would have been quite justifiable, although then they would not have called the conference in conformity with the pledge already referred to, and must have done so at a subsequent period. And then, unhappily, when Lovett offered to resign his claim of precedence for the charter, in accordance with Somer's amendment, and to let the bill the conference might agree upon, go forward without any name at all, rather than quarrel about names; still the complete suffrage party would not consent, but insisted upon their own arbitrary claim. This I thought made it absolutely necessary to separate from them. I am, dear sir, very faithfully yours,

HENRY SOLLY.

Tavistock, January 11, 1843.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR—Not perceiving any notice of my last letter in your paper of the 11th, I suppose it did not arrive,

through some mistake, in time. Allow me to ask the favour of your inserting these concluding remarks, which, with the foregoing, will then, I hope, be accepted by my respected constituents at Stirling, as the explanation of the conduct I felt bound to pursue as one of their representatives at Birmingham.

From my previous observations they would, perhaps, ask why, since Mr Somers' amendment was lost, did I vote for William Lovett's, which was giving that very precedence I protested against? For these reasons.—Few impartial men dispute the justice of the bitter complaints urged by the working classes of having been ill-treated in the matter of the Reform bill. As the conviction gained strength among them, that they must work out their own emancipation for themselves, hoping nothing from the middle classes, whom they regarded as either the dupes or the accomplices of their oppressors, an energetic movement was commenced among them, under the auspices of Lovett, Vincent, Hetherington, and Co. Their claims were clearly and ably urged in the people's charter, which thenceforth became the bond of union between hundreds of thousands of intelligent, high-minded working men. That there have been some grave errors committed in the course of the chartist agitation, I would be the last to deny; but when we consider the long years of oppression, the burning indignation it had caused, the bitter disappointment after the bright gleam of hope in 1830-33, I doubt if history furnishes another instance of equal forbearance in the midst of equally ardent feeling. And when we further reflect upon the shameful treatment, under the most flimsy pretexts, of numbers of the noblest among the working classes—and the undaunted, devoted zeal with which "the charter" was still struggled for, and vindicated both from the injurious support of injudicious friends or the cruel attacks of open foes—when we further consider the enlarged and statesmanlike object of their efforts, embracing not merely some petty alteration in their own special condition, some class reforms of monopolies or of wages, some class privileges or immunities, but a grand comprehensive measure for equal and universal justice—I confess my own associations with chartism are of a touching and elevating nature. I look through the outward, and somewhat, perhaps, repulsive, covering which prejudice, or real indiscretion, has thrown around it, and in the heart of the movement I see a genuine nobleness of purpose—a generous, truthful magnanimity which, I am persuaded, will hereafter make this now dishonoured cause rank high in the admiration of posterity. I cannot but consider the tone so constantly adopted of denouncing it as a thing hateful, and to be abominated on account of the follies or crimes of some of its professed advocates, as unworthy and very pitiful. I never have taken the name of chartist, because I will never voluntarily assume any party badge; but I hope I shall always be utterly indifferent to any name which may be fastened on me by others in consequence of my adherence to principles which I believe to be right. And, least of all could I believe it a just or manly step to turn round on the party from whom I had received the exceeding benefit, as I esteem it, of being led to anchor on the sure and lasting ground of the people's charter; and, taking their principles under a different name, endeavour to raise another agitation by depreciating theirs, and recommend myself to the regard of men steeped in unworthy prejudice by excommunicating my political parents. Now, I confess with deep regret (highly esteeming as I do the leading men of the complete suffrage party, and admiring sincerely the manner in which they have come out from their class) that their conduct, on the occasion referred to, appeared to me of such a nature.

As a party, I conceive we owe our very existence at the present time to the undaunted energy, perseverance, and comprehensive views of the originators of the chartist movement; and though I felt perfectly justified in choosing with what men I would work, yet when at a national conference, called on perfectly impartial principles, but called expressly because William Lovett consented, at a previous one, to waive the discussion of the details of the charter, I find my own friends determined on either withdrawing altogether or substituting a new bill for that to which we owe so much, and without previous notice, hoisting a new standard for that under which brave and honest men had so long toiled and suffered, I felt bound to oppose a proceeding that appeared to me at once uncalled for, unmanly, and unjust.

I pray God that our poor country may not suffer from these dissensions, but hope deferred is a weary burden to the heart; and I cannot sympathise with the satisfaction expressed by some at the separation that has taken place. Would to heaven "that which is lame had rather been healed," by fresh infusion of high and generous feeling, instead "of being turned out of the way."

Pardon my thus intruding upon your space, and the attention of your readers, and allow me still to subscribe myself with much respect,

Yours in the cause of Christian liberty,
Tavistock, Jan. 16. HENRY SOLLY.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

The usual weekly meeting of the committee was held at the office of the Union, Waterloo street, Birmingham, on Monday last.

Mr Albright was appointed to make the final arrangements with Messrs Davis and Hasler of London, respecting the establishment of a tract depot.

Resolved, that the pamphlet, "A Defence of the Rights of the Working Classes," by W. S. Crawford, Esq., M. P., be printed and stereotyped; also the "Abstract of the Bill" when corrected. That 2000 copies of the article on complete suffrage, from the January number of the *Eclectic Review*; and 500 each of the "Rules and Objects;" and "The Suffrage—an Appeal to Electors;" be immediately printed.

Resolved, that Mr Vincent be requested to deliver a lecture in the mechanics' institution, Great Charles street, Birmingham, on Monday evening, the 13th of February, and that the usual monthly meeting of the council be postponed till that time.

Letters were read from—Thomas Thompson, Sunderland; Joseph Johnson, Bristol; Edward Davy, Crediton; Thomas Wilche, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Rev. W. Leask, Chapman'slade; P. Lowther, Hull; James Mills, Oldham; and the following from Falmouth:

Falmouth, 28th Jan. 1843.

DEAR SIR.—The present crisis demands our every energy, nor should we repine at apparent discomfitures. The discussion of the last conference, will, I have no doubt, give us a better standing in society, and the name "charter" will not now be tauntingly applied to us, to our injury.

Pure radical reform, apart from violence of language or demeanour, is all that true philanthropists require, and I am proud to know that we, as a body, have separated from those with whom we could only agree on minor points, and who have made themselves odious by their own folly and indiscretion. A steady straightforward course is all we want. Let this be adhered to, and we have nothing to fear from either of the existing political factions. A regular agency should be established, and a fund for that special purpose should be raised, as the poorer districts are unable to bear the expenses of a public lecturer. It frequently happens, however, that these districts are better prepared to receive a lecturer's advice than the richer; and a brief review of the last general election, with a retrospect of political history, will furnish us with the fact that the higher circles are more susceptible of bribery, intimidating and corrupting the electors, than those in humble life; hence I infer that an agent would have to work long and hard amongst them to set aside prejudiced notions. In every town having the franchise, a regular system of organisation should be obtained, and the principles contained in our "Bill of Rights" disseminated liberally, so that "one and all" may have an opportunity of reading and thinking for themselves.

I am aware that unless something of this sort is done, we shall have much up-hill work and difficulty in persuading men to become converts. To be local, allow me to acquaint you that Cornwall is ripe for re-action. The yeomanry, who so earnestly supported the tory party in the last general election, are beginning to find out their error, and the promised protection, made by those who obtained their suffrages, has turned out a mere farce. A spirit of freedom and amelioration is being generated, and soon, by a little prompting, the cause of reform (real genuine reform) will burst forth in all its beauty. The sliding scale, the tariff, the income and property tax—all are sufficiently demonstrative of notice to quit to the present ministry. Cornwall is not backward, nor will it be found less vigilant to overthrow the tories than other counties. A regular organisation should be attempted, and this can only be done through the instrumentality of one of your lecturing agents. May I therefore be permitted to solicit your kind assistance to bring about so great a desideratum.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
ROBERT M. HAWKE.

READING.—On Wednesday and Thursday evenings last, two numerous and important meetings were held in this large agricultural town, to hear addresses from Henry Vincent. An admission fee of sixpence was charged to the boxes of the theatre, and three pence to the other parts of the house. So crowded was the house on the second night, that seats had to be placed upon the stage. Many electors were present. We were highly pleased at the interest evinced by the middle classes. Jabez Vines occupied the chair on both occasions. At the first meeting he gave in a report of the proceedings at the late conference, and his reasons for having supported the policy of the minority of that body. Mr James (the other delegate), though he had left Birmingham before the division took place, concurred in the policy adopted by the minority, and delivered a very effective speech on the necessity of the middle classes aiding to procure complete suffrage. The meeting warmly applauded the course the delegates had adopted. Mr Vincent was received with great enthusiasm. His first address embraced a general review of the question of complete suffrage, its necessity and safety, and the importance of efficient organisation to carry it into effect. The second address was an extensive reference to the parliamentary and general history of Great Britain, by which it was clearly shown that complete suffrage was sanctioned by the theory of the constitution. A deep impression appeared to be made upon the audience, who expressed their approbation with more than usual energy. Votes of thanks were unanimously awarded to Henry Vincent, accompanied by a public request that he would soon visit Reading again. Meetings like these, in large agricultural towns, are highly important. They prove that all parts of the country are ripening into a readiness to receive and recognise the principles of democracy, under the peaceful auspices of the Complete Suffrage Union. Several towns in the neighbourhood of Reading already evince an anxiety to know what the principles are.

BRADFORD, YORK.—The *Bradford Observer* of Thursday embodies, in a leading article, an admirable address of the Complete Suffrage association of Bradford to the electors of that borough, containing a very clear narrative of the state of the cause, and many valuable suggestions. We have only room for an extract or two. After a few remarks on the kind of legislation to be expected during the coming session of parliament, it proceeds—

"We, the Bradford Complete Suffrage association, feel dissatisfied with the course and general spirit of British legislation. You cherish the same feeling; as your anti-corn-law meetings and petitions—your subscriptions towards the League fund, abundantly testify. We are convinced that the legislation of the approaching session will not differ essentially from that of the last ten years. Perhaps your are more sanguine; but should all the existing monopolies of which you complain, and because of the existence of which you are called upon to pay an income tax, remain as at present at the end of next session, what course do you then intend to pursue? To move in the old circle? Again to call anti-monopoly meetings, to present anti-monopoly petitions, to raise another fifty-thousand-pound fund? And can you see the end of all this? Can you calculate the time when you will be under no necessity to call anti-monopoly meetings, and present anti-monopoly petitions, and subscribe to anti-monopoly funds?

"But should you be able, in the approaching session, or at some indefinite future period, to sweep away the monopolies against which you now contend, what guarantee have you that these monopolies will not be re-enacted in a new and more insidious form? Why do these monopolies exist at present? Is it not because certain parties are interested in their existence?—and are not these parties your legislators? But though you should be able, aided by the threatened advent of national bankruptcy, and the alarming increase of pauperism, to repeal these monopolies at an early period, is it not probable that those who now support them—who for so long a time have supported them, will take the first favourable opportunity to re-enact them? Are you quite willing to risk such a contingency?"

The legislature know that they are sapping the foundations of national prosperity, but they perceive

that what would tend to restore it would be injurious to themselves. Nor can the electors cope with this dominant aristocracy without infusing more of the democratic spirit into the constitution. We are opposed to all monopolies, and "in striving to undermine and cast down the monopoly of legislation, we are in advance of those of you who merely battle against monopolies which sprung from this one as their common root."

"We have seen the strength of the country wasted; its wealth squandered; its spirit—not broken, but crushed down for a season, in the long-protracted struggle of right against might, of reason and justice against prescription, of manhood against old feudalism and a false nobility. We have seen the nation struggle long against mere symptoms, and some of us have engaged in this struggle. But we have done with it. We have resolved to attack monopoly at its root and source; to remove, if possible, the causes of our national diseases. Those who still battle against mere symptoms have no cause to laugh at this our policy, nor are likely soon to have."

"We have seen the war of factions, and some of us have been foolish enough to serve in it. We have seen the hollowness of the leaders of these respective factions; and we have discovered that the leaders on both sides are always ready to sacrifice the public welfare at the shrine of their own interests."

"We have resolved that our future conduct shall be in conformity with our increased knowledge. Expediency—which almost always means the sacrifice of right and truth at the bidding of those who declare that we may do evil that good may come, we repudiate. We have had far too much of this expediency; we are now determined to try principle. Our principles are known to the world; and by these principles we have pledged ourselves to stand. Partisans may laugh at us—may laugh at our principles and pledges. They may tell us that our numbers are inconsiderable—that we have no influence as a political party. We do not boast of our numbers, but they are daily increasing; and every man has some influence which is vastly increased so soon as he is fully convinced of the truth of his principles. We already count in our association such a number of electors as could in some of the late contests for this borough, have turned the election to either side."

FINSBURY.—On Friday evening the adjourned meeting of the Finsbury Complete Suffrage association took place at the Crown inn, Clerkenwell, when Mr Vincent delivered a lecture in exposition of the principles of complete suffrage. Stafford Allen, Esq., was called to the chair. Mr C. Elt gave a short account of the rules adopted at the former meeting, and of the objects of the association. Mr Vincent was received with great applause. He commenced by proving that all monopolies spring out of the great monopoly, that of legislation; and proceeded to show the large amount of ignorance that prevailed as to what was the legitimate province of good government. It was not constituted to regulate the trade, nor the commerce, nor the minds, nor the consciences of the people, but simply to afford protection to life and property. This mistaken idea rendered our present system of legislation so powerful an engine of evil, and had involved the country in almost inextricable confusion, and had created an hostility between its various interests. The fundamental principle of the Complete Suffrage Union, viz., universal suffrage, was then explained, and the various objections to it—such as the ignorance of the working classes, the danger in which property would be placed, the selfish designs of the millions, &c., fairly stated, and replied to, and were followed by a clear and humorous account of the working of our present system of government. The necessity and fitness of the other points that constitute complete suffrage were pointed out and illustrated by his own personal experience. The cogent arguments and high-toned eloquence of Mr Vincent told well upon the meeting, and elicited the warmest applause. Towards the close of his address Mr Sturge entered the room, and was received with reiterated cheers. Mr Sturge made a few observations on the cheering progress of the cause, the identity of principles advocated by the complete suffrage party and the working classes, and the specific object for which the former agitation was commenced—to gain over the electoral body to the doctrines of complete suffrage. He strongly urged the necessity of taking a determined stand on these principles, without submitting to any compromise. This was one of the chief means by which the abolition of slavery was effected. After votes of thanks to Mr Vincent, Mr Sturge, and the Chairman, the meeting separated at a late hour. Cards of membership were distributed to those who had become members of the association, and a considerable addition was made to its numbers. To-morrow evening, we understand, a meeting of the association will be held at the same place, to appoint officers and transact other business.

HULL—DINNER TO THE BIRMINGHAM DELEGATES.—On Monday evening week, the Hull Complete Suffrage association in this town gave a dinner to its two representatives to the Birmingham conference, Messrs Webster and Padgett. The meeting took place in the Freemason's hall, in Mytongate, and was attended by about one hundred individuals. The time announced for dinner was seven o'clock. All intoxicating liquors were excluded. The chair was taken by Mr Richardson, who was supported on his right and left by Messrs Webster and Padgett, and Mr Collins of Birmingham was also in attendance. Letters of apology were read from Mr Sturge, Mr Vincent, and Mr Fraser, the Editor of the *True Scotsman*, each of whom had been invited to the meeting. After the cloth had been removed, the Chairman gave, "The people, the only true source of legitimate power." Mr W. G. Burns responded to the toast, and strongly censured the conduct of a section of the chartists in exercising so odious a despotism over the opinions and freedom of action with respect to those who did not hold their views. He strongly urged the necessity of reform, and pointed out the evils of our present representation. The Chairman then gave, "Our invited guests, Messrs Webster and Padgett, with thanks to them for their manly and independent conduct at the late Birmingham Complete Suffrage conference, and may they long live to be the advocates of the people's rights." Mr Webster vindicated himself from the charges which had been preferred against him. When at Birmingham he had voted according to certain principles, not merely to

serve a party, but to assist in the adoption of such measures as were calculated to benefit his constituents. He had before told them that when at Birmingham he had seen Mr Sturge and his party; he believed them to be honest men, the best friends of the people. He had seen the bill drawn up by Mr Sturge, and which had been adopted by his followers; he believed that that bill contained the whole principles of the charter, although, in detail, it might vary a little from that document; and it was because he had consented to use his efforts to assist in the struggle to get that measure passed into a law, he had been invited to meet them that evening at the festive board. He might be called an apostate, but if he obtained the principles of the bill of Mr Sturge, he cared not what they called him. He was a friend to the people, and he would do all in his power to persuade those of his chartist friends with whom he intended to remain, to use all their influence to carry out its principles. He concluded amid great applause. Mr Padgett in a very few words acknowledged the toast, but would not trouble them with a speech. The chairman then gave, "Joseph Sturge and the Complete Suffrage Union; may it be the means of uniting all classes in the cause of freedom." Mr J. Collins, of Birmingham, then rose, and was received with many rounds of applause. He made an able and argumentative speech on the rights of the people, disposing of many of the most prominent fallacies urged against them, and pointing out the policy of the aristocracy in encouraging war, and the military spirit among our population. The following toasts were then given:—"The press, may it ever be the guardian of the rights and privileges of the people; may the halo of its rays extend around the surface of the globe, and may it diffuse the principles of true liberty into every heart and every clime." "Colonel Thompson, the late member for Hull, and the unwearied, unflinching, and uncompromising friend of liberty." "A speedy restoration to liberty of all persons suffering punishments and imprisonment for political offences." Each of these was briefly responded to, and the meeting separated.

SHEFFIELD.—REPRESENTATION OF THE BOROUGH.—The Complete Suffrage union of this town held their usual weekly meetings in the Assembly room, yesterday week. Mr Mycock in the chair. Mr Hughes, at the request of the Chairman, read the leading article of the *Nonconformist*, after which Mr Beal rose, and said the question to which he wished to direct the attention of the meeting, was the probability of a vacancy occurring in the representation of Sheffield. The foundation of this opinion is the fact of Mr Parker having been appointed steward to the court of Requests—a situation, the duties of which it would be impossible for him to fulfil without impairing his efficiency as one of the representatives for the borough. In the event of Mr Parker resigning, Mr Beal said that the members of the Complete Suffrage union ought to be on the alert; and he begged leave to direct their attention to a man whose public and private worth pre-eminently entitled him to their consideration—and that gentleman is Colonel T. P. Thompson. Mr Beal then read several extracts from the gallant colonel's work, to show his masterly intellect and racy and humorous style; and he further observed, that if there be one thing more than another that shows up the wretched state of the representation, it is that such men as Col. Thompson are not in parliament—he is the only person fitted to succeed the immortal Bentham. There is scarcely a question in morals or in political economy which has not been indebted to the gallant colonel's pen—even many characters who now take the lead of him, have gleaned their information from his works; and all the free-trade doctrines now floating are the scattered rays of his powerful mind. Mr Cobden admits that, "although he is but a colonel in the regiment, he is a Napoleon in free trade." But this is not his only recommendation, he is a radical too of the first water; and thus while he would advocate the principle of free trade, he would urge on the attention of the legislature the claims of the unrepresented millions. Mr Beal therefore moved "that Mr Parker having been appointed steward to the court of Requests, and as it will be impossible for him to fulfil its duties and attend to our interests in parliament, a vacancy is expected to occur in the representation of this borough. This Union, therefore, respectfully recommend Colonel T. P. Thompson as a fit person to represent Sheffield in parliament, and pledges itself to exert its utmost to ensure his triumphant return." Mr W. Barker seconded the resolution, and pronounced an eulogy on the character of Colonel Thompson. The Rev. Mr Davies moved, and Mr Hughes seconded, an amendment in the wording of the former part of the resolution, on the ground that it might give offence to the liberal party, and seemed like a call on Mr Parker to resign. After a short discussion, the Chairman, in putting the resolution and amendment, observed if there was one thing more than another that would give him pleasure, it would be in assisting in the election of Col. Thompson as member for Sheffield. He thought he would, like Caesar, only have to show himself to conquer; and Sheffield would confer an honour on itself by electing such a man, and he would be honoured by representing such a large and intelligent constituency. The resolution was carried by a large majority.

SUNDERLAND.—On Monday evening, a public meeting was held in the large lecture room of the Athenaeum, Fawcett street, Bishopwearmouth, Sunderland, which had been convened by a handbill, announcing that "Mr Williams would give a sketch of the public character and conduct of Joseph Sturge, Esq.; after which, the meeting would take into consideration the comments made in the *Even-*

ing Star and *Northern Star*, relative to the conduct of Mr Williams and others at the recent Birmingham conference, and also the propriety of censuring the conduct of Feargus O'Connor, Esq., not merely for the unjustifiable nature of the above comments, but more particularly for withholding a reply to the same. The O'Connor party chose their own chairman, and Mr Kidd as their champion on the occasion. Messrs Williams and Kidd spoke alternately for ten minutes until the discussion was concluded. At its termination Mr Kidd moved an amendment in favour of O'Connor and his newspapers. The following is the result as reported by the *Gateshead Observer*, with a remark or two from that able paper:—

"The amendment, and then the motion, were put to a show of hands. On both sides there was a large display, but the Chairman decided that the amendment was carried. This decision being protested against by Mr Williams and his friends, the Chairman (after declining to sanction a numerical division) consented to take a second show—which was done amidst great confusion. Again the show on each side was large, and so nearly balanced, that we could not say which of the two motions was carried. The Chairman made no second declaration—at least not in our hearing."

"It was a singular and significant meeting, and provocative of grave reflection. Mr O'Connor was present by deputy, strenuously endeavouring to procure the sanction of a public meeting to his despotic denunciation of a restive leader—a man who has the 'impudence' and 'audacity' to think and to act for himself! The proprietor of the *Star* proclaims (by proxy) that the minority must have no minds of their own—that no chartist leader must dare to differ from Mr O'Connor, and 'set up a shop of his own.' The men who can tamely subscribe to such doctrine are unprepared for freedom—are fit only for slaves; and we rejoice that in a crowded public meeting, wholly constituted by the working classes, the intolerant O'Connor creed could not secure a decisive majority. The power of the chartist pope is on the wane; his 'star' is setting."

The local chartists were aided by a considerable body of auxiliaries from Newcastle and Shields; and when, at eight o'clock, the men of the middle classes quitted their places of business for the Athenaeum, they were unable to obtain admission. The meeting, therefore, consisted almost wholly of the working classes.

HUDDERSFIELD.—On Thursday night week, a general meeting of the Huddersfield Complete Suffrage association was held at the Temperance hotel, Cross Church street, for the purpose of taking into consideration their "present state and future prospects." The meeting was very numerously attended by the members and friends; many feeling, eloquent, and heart-stirring speeches were made on the occasion, and at the close, a great number expressed their determination to redouble their efforts in this virtuous, peaceful, and constitutional agitation, and never to cease until the rights of man, as contradistinguished from the privileges of class, were triumphant. Many donations were made and subscriptions advanced. This society goes steadily to work, and augurs well. At this meeting, amongst several others, the following was resolved unanimously:—

"That the members of this association hereby express their decided approbation of the conduct of the minority at the late Birmingham conference, in resisting the attempt made to force upon them the consideration of the document called the people's charter; because, in their opinion, such a course would have been looked upon as identifying the present movement with the errors and misconduct which (by their own confession) have been committed by the adherents and advocates of that document."

WESTBURY, WILTS.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of Westbury, was held in the room of the Complete Suffrage union, on Wednesday evening, January 25, for the purpose of hearing a report of the proceedings of the conference, held at Birmingham, by Mr C. Clark, of Bath, lecturer for the Complete Suffrage union. Mr John Taylor was called to the chair. Mr Clark gave a very graphic description of the proceedings, and pointed out the superlative value of the Bill of Rights to that of the skeleton charter. He animadverted at some length on the line of conduct pursued by the O'Connor party, clearly delineating their ill-judged procedure. The audience entirely concurred in the sentiments of the speaker.

SALTCOATS.—On Monday, the 23rd ult., a public meeting was held for the purpose of hearing the report of our delegate who attended the conference held in Birmingham on the 27th Dec. and following days. Mr Henderson gave a plain and satisfactory account of the course he had pursued and the motives which influenced him to do as he had done, which any reflecting mind would consider as the dictates of discretion and honest principle alone. The meeting was pretty orderly and quiet, until a vote of thanks was proposed to the delegate. This was more than the O'Connor party could stand, who opposed it by proposing a vote of censure. After a few questions were put and answered, the vote of thanks was put to the meeting, and was carried amidst the plaudits and cheering of all present, with the exception of only four "whole hog" men.—*Glasgow Post*.

General News.

FOREIGN.

AMERICA.

The packet ships Ashburton, Captain Huttleston, and Stephen Whitney, Captain Thompson, the former after a passage of eighteen days, and the latter of fifteen days, bring intelligence down to the 14th instant.

The new year's holidays had interrupted the proceedings of Congress. The bill making provision for the occupation and settlement of the Oregon territory had passed to an engrossment in the Senate. A

Mr Suin, of Mobile, is the chief promoter of the bill, and he is of opinion that the country needs a war to awaken its downcast energies. The last debate on the bill took place on the 12th inst., when Mr Benton delivered a long and warlike speech in favour of the appropriation and settlement of the territory. Mr Cathoun opposes the bill, on the ground that it is inconsistent with the spirit of the treaty with Great Britain, which left the country open to settlement on both sides.

On the 9th inst., the exchequer system came before the House of Representatives. It came up in the shape of a motion from Mr Fillmore, the chairman of the committee on ways and means, to print a report from the majority of the committee adverse to the exchequer system recommended by the President, and which said that the bill "ought not to be adopted." A long debate followed. The impression was, that the bill would be rejected. On the 10th Mr Botts brought forward a series of resolutions impeaching the President for unconstitutional conduct. Several divisions took place, and the affair was finally disposed of by a vote of 127 to 83. After the division Mr Botts said he wiped his hands of the impeachment for ever.

The court of inquiry into the mutiny on board the United States brig Somers and the subsequent execution of three of the mutineers, the reputed leader of whom was a son of Mr Spencer, the minister at war, was still sitting. All the officers of the vessel having been examined on the subject, the court was engaged in the examination of the seamen. The inquiry excited the liveliest attention.

The accounts from Canada report an improvement in the health of Sir C. Bagot, and his ultimate recovery was expected. The home government having left the choice of the capital to the provincial government, the latter had fixed on Montreal. Mr Papineau was expected to return to the United States in the spring.

The news from Mexico was late and important. General Gustarray, of the department of San Louis, had, by a military movement which had been in preparation some time, declared the dissolution of Congress, and announced the convocation of a new one by Santa Anna, to frame a constitution for the republic. General Caniligo had made the same declaration for his department. The news of these movements reached the city of Mexico by express. General Tornell, the minister of war, on receiving it, immediately made the events known to Congress. That body, it is stated, at once took a dignified stand, declaring that they would not listen to threats from any military commander, and would continue to sit until driven from the hall by force of arms. The movements of the generals had caused a great sensation in the capital.

Campeachy continued to hold out against the Mexican land and sea forces. Skirmishes, which did not lead to important results on either side, were of frequent occurrence. The Mexican ranks are said to have been thinned by the ravages of the yellow fever.

FRANCE.

The right of search question has been the all-absorbing topic of discussion in the French journals.

The debate on the address proceeded up to Saturday night without much spirit. An amendment was brought on in the Chamber of Peers on Monday, upon the subject of the right of search. It had for its object to demand the revision of the treaties of 1831 and 1833. This amendment, moved by the Marquis de Turgot, with the concurrence of M. de Brigode and the Prince of Moskowa, failed, after three days deliberation.

The speech of M. Guizot in the Chamber of Peers was described as having been most effective; and he boldly declared that he would be no party to demanding the abrogation of those treaties. The Due de Broglie, on Tuesday, followed on the same side, and put the question in such a light, that a large number of peers, who had intended opposing the government, are said to have altogether withdrawn the opposition.

After the Due de Broglie had returned to his seat, no one asking to speak on the amendment, it was put to the vote, and the numbers were declared to be—for the address, 118; for the amendment, 67. Majority in favour of ministers, 51.

On Friday the debate on the address, in reply to the speech from the throne, commenced in the Chamber of Deputies. Messrs Beaumont, de Carne, and de Lamartine, were the chief speakers. The speech of the latter, who had formerly supported the present cabinet, was eminently anti-ministerial, and produced a great sensation, but was not considered capable of influencing the issue of the debate. The address, as drawn up by the commission, was read to the Chambers on Tuesday, and is much milder than was expected, recommending neither abrogation nor negotiation. It is, in fact, said to have been drawn up under the advice of M. Guizot himself. The friends of the cabinet, says the *Times* correspondent, have been requested to support it, and there appears to be no doubt that ministers will carry the address in its present shape.

In reference to Spanish affairs, the same authority says—

"The despatch forwarded to the Duke de Glucksberg three days since by M. Guizot, was to apprise him that, by the courier who leaves to-day for Madrid, he should receive a formal intimation of the precise number of days he (the Duke de Glucksberg) was to remain in Madrid, should the Spanish government persist in withholding from France satisfaction for the insult offered her through her consul, M. Lesseps. It is hoped, however, that the interference of the British government will have effected a reconciliation."

The *Courrier Francais* states the appalling fact, that "for some time past crime has so much increased in the capital, that all the prisons are crowded to excess, insomuch that it has been found nearly impossible to secure the numbers who are daily arrested."

TURKEY.

Letters from Constantinople state that Captain Williams, R.A., had been appointed by Sir Stratford Canning to proceed immediately to the Persian frontier, to act as commissioner, with those dispatched by Persia and the Porte, and a Russian colonel, named by M. de Bouteiff, for the final arrangement of all existing difficulties. Redschid Pasha had been directed to return by Vienna to consult with Prince Metternich on the Servian question, on which no decision would be taken by the Porte until his arrival at Constantinople. The Austrian ambassador had presented an angry note to the divan, complaining of obstacles opposed to a commercial company trading with Trebisond. A change of ministry was expected at Constantinople.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

THE BLACK SEA.—A letter dated Genoa the 18th inst., published in the *Journal des Debats*, announces that the agitation of the Black sea continued and even increased during the 13th, 14th, and 15th inst., and had caused considerable damage in the port and neighbourhood. Two French vessels were lost in the waters of the Spezzia, and much injury was done to the new mole and the ramparts of Mala Paga, where the foundations of the barracks appropriated to the custom-house troops were considerably shaken. On the evening of the 15th the Archbishop, together with the Chapter, and accompanied by all the clergy of the place, the municipal authorities, and a great concourse of people, blessed the sea, from the heights of the mole!

FORTIFICATIONS OF PARIS.—The fortifications of Paris have suffered much from the bad weather. The rain and wind have caused the mason-work to yield in several places, the embankments have given way to a great extent, and the foundations have sunk considerably in some parts. This damage has been reported by the inspectors, and it is supposed that it will cost several millions of francs to repair the disaster.

A letter from Vienna states that the government is on the point of having works executed on the Danube for improving its navigation, so as to make this great river the medium of conducting the commerce of the east, which would thus render Vienna the principal depository of this great branch of trade.

THE PRESS IN NAPLES.—The *Morning Chronicle* publishes an interesting narrative of the persecution to which the historian Amari has lately been subjected, by the Neapolitan government. Amari lately published a narrative of that portion of Sicilian history, known under the title of "Sicilian Vespers." The work had to pass through the ordeal of two rigorous censorships, but nothing censurable was found in it. When published, it became very popular, and met with a rapid sale. One of the Neapolitan ministers, however, seems suddenly to have discovered a dangerous tendency in Amari's book, and the King was advised to invite him to Naples, without specifying any motive for the invitation. Amari and his friends were at first delighted by the supposed honour, but some secret information was conveyed to him that had the effect of opening his eyes to the nature of the trap laid for him. He was offered a free passage on board one of the royal steamers—an offer which was apparently accepted with thankfulness. To lull suspicion, Amari went on board of the steamer a little while before the time fixed for her departure. He found several police officers on board, evidently stationed there for the purpose of satisfying themselves of his embarkation; for almost immediately after his arrival they left the vessel. As soon as they were gone, Amari inquired after his luggage, and was told that none had arrived. He affected to be much surprised and enraged at this information, and said that he must return and see what had become of it. The commander allowed him to land again, and promised even to delay the vessel for a few minutes, but as Amari remained beyond the stipulated time, the steamer got under weigh, and proceeded on her voyage without him. Amari, instead of returning to the shore, was conveyed by his boatmen on board an English vessel, to which his luggage had been conveyed by his friends, and that same evening the English vessel sailed for Marseilles, at which place Amari has since been staying, but whence, it is said, he intends shortly to remove to Paris. When the order for the seizure of Amari's work arrived at Palermo not a single copy could be found, the whole impression having been sold off.

The *Leipsic Gazette* of the 24th ult. states, that the Ottoman Porte had formally refused to authorise the establishment of a French consulate at Sophia, inasmuch as France possesses no commercial establishments in that country. Baron de Bourqueney, the French ambassador at Constantinople, proposed in consequence to apply for leave to appoint a consul at Varna.

GREECE.—Private letters from Athens of the 27th ult. state, that the King, instead of adopting a radical change of system, and curtailing his reckless expenditure, which alone could save the country from a national bankruptcy, had determined to keep his present incapable ministry in office. There was no para in the treasury, and the revenue for the year 1842 had fallen short of that of the preceding year by nearly one-third. The custom laws had driven away trade, and nearly compelled all foreign merchants to

quit the kingdom. The King had appointed a commission to analyse those laws, composed of six persons totally incompetent for such a task.

Letters from Beyrouth of the 31st ult. state, that the most perfect tranquillity prevailed in that neighbourhood, and that the results of the adjustment happily obtained by Sir Strafford Canning from the Porte were most satisfactory.

PORTUGAL.—The protracted negotiations that have been carried on between the Portuguese and English governments, respecting the tariff, have at length been brought to a close, by the proposals of the former having been transmitted to Lord Howard de Walden on the 16th ult. The further alterations proposed are so slight, and coupled with such conditions, that there is no chance of their being accepted by the British government, which will no doubt consider them as the ultimatum of Portugal, and their rejection, therefore, will be tantamount to breaking off the negotiation for a tariff convention for the present.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Cape of Good Hope papers of the 10th of December have arrived, but they afford little news relative to the condition of the colony. However, as few complaints are made, it may be augured that matters are proceeding satisfactorily. The news from Natal, the scene of the late boer conflict, was that Captain Smith and his garrison were in good health; but, it is added, it would appear worse than useless to attempt anything in the present position of the troops. There are said to be about 100 men at the point, well covered by a good entrenchment and breastwork with three guns, the breastwork being loopholed for musketry. Captain Smith with his force was at the camp, also well fortified, where there were six guns mounted, and the facing of the entrenchment loopholed for small arms. Altogether, it is stated, the force is impregnable as far as the boers are concerned; while, to increase the general comfort, barracks have been erected and several wells sunk.

DEMERARA.—A private letter from Demerara speaks of a visit which Governor Light had paid to Bahia, on a tour of inspection among the recently-located liberated Africans from Rio de Janeiro and St Helena. These people, 1,200 in number, looked well, appeared happy, and gave satisfaction to the planters. The sea coast and the rivers appeared equally to agree with the health of the emigrants. They are mostly young persons, and quickly acquire the English language. Most of them perform the full task of work assigned to Creole labourers of the same age.

CATHOLIC MISSIONS.—During the last few weeks, ten priests of the Foreign Missionary society have set out on various destinations. Two are gone to India; two as directors of the General Missionary college established at Pulo Pinang; two are to endeavour to penetrate into Cochin-China; one is to go to Siam and the other to Macao, preparatory to joining the missionaries in China.—*Galignani's Messenger*.

DOMESTIC.

PROVINCIAL.

MR AINSWORTH AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.—In reply to the requisition forwarded to Mr Ainsworth by his constituents, signed by 322 electors, calling upon him to explain the extraordinary change in his opinions on the corn laws, the member for Bolton stated that he should be present at the Reform News rooms of that town, to meet any electors who might be disposed to question him on the subject, on Thursday. This, however, did not satisfy his constituents, who saw in this intention a design to get rid of the requisition by a side-wind. Very few of the electors, therefore, attended this meeting, and the reply of Mr Ainsworth being deemed unsatisfactory, as he virtually refused to meet the great body of the electors, a public meeting was called for Friday, at which the attendance of their representative was solicited. To this request, however, he vouchsafed no reply. The meeting was held, and several very stringent resolutions were passed, declaring that Mr Ainsworth had forfeited the confidence of his supporters by his recent declaration in favour of a moderate fixed duty—that the electors should consider it their duty to replace their member, as soon as opportunity should occur, with a representative whose views were more in accordance with their own—that a requisition be prepared, calling on Mr Ainsworth immediately to resign—and that a committee be appointed to carry out these resolutions. Great indignation was expressed by all the speakers at the conduct of their representative, which was shared by the whole meeting. What course their representative intends to pursue appears at present unknown.

THE ANTI-CORN-LAW DEMONSTRATIONS.—The Free Trade hall, with the exception of its decorations and embellishments, will have received the finishing stroke of the builder by the time this publication reaches the hands of many of our subscribers. The flooring, the dais, and the galleries have been put in, and we may fearlessly assert that Manchester now possesses the noblest hall, for an occasion of the kind, in the kingdom. The report of its insecurity has been blown to the winds, and the tickets of admission to the first banquet have not only been disposed of, but few indeed can be obtained at a premium. Certificates of the substantiality of the erection have been obtained from the first engineers, builders, and surveyors of the town.—The hall is to-day (Saturday) receiving its draperies and other decorations, and will be ready for the great aggregate meeting of Monday night. The hall is calculated to seat 3300 persons, with the tables in it, but without them we should say it will accommodate little less

THE NONCONFORMIST.

than ten thousand. The meeting for the election of chairman, &c., on Monday morning, will be held at the Town hall, as will the meetings of delegates on the succeeding mornings.—*Manchester Times*.

A very large anti-corn-law meeting, or rather *soirée*, was held on Wednesday evening, at the assembly room, Broadmead. Tea was provided, to which about a thousand persons of both sexes sat down. Mr G. Thomas presided. The meeting was afterwards addressed by Colonel Thompson, Mr Cobden, and Mr Moore, whose speeches were of a similar character to those delivered by them at other meetings; and at the conclusion about £800 were subscribed towards the League fund. Mr Cobden was summoned to Manchester early on Thursday morning, in consequence of a severe domestic calamity—the unexpected death of one of his children. *

A HEALTHY RESTORATIVE.—The other day, at Canterbury market, the following colloquy was overheard between two tory farmers:—A. Hard times, neighbour; what will become of us farmers? I thought when the tories got into power all would be right.—B. Oh, never fear; Sir Robert Peel will soon put you all upon your legs again.—A. Ah, will he so? I am glad to hear you say that. But how?—B. Why, he will compel you to sell all your hunters and pleasure nags, and make you walk.—*Kent Herald*.

AN AGRICULTURAL MANIFESTO.—The report of the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Farmer's association, just issued, is calculated to create a deep impression on the country at this juncture. This important agricultural body do not merely charge Sir Robert Peel with disappointing all the expectations which they had formed before they were induced to place him in power; they denounce his policy as directly injurious and positively destructive to the agricultural interests, which they had supposed were placed under his auspices. We have been abundantly censured for saying that the farmers of Suffolk would prefer an absolute free trade at once to a state of paralysing uncertainty. The Cambridge and Isle of Ely Farmers' association, however, express a similar opinion in stronger language: “The committee,” says the report, “should grossly deceive their brother farmers if they said that they either expected or even desired the finality of the recent measures.” They add the following significant declaration: “Rather than it should be so, they would prefer to see an universal system of free trade adopted. The necessity for a totally opposite policy will never be felt or understood till it is; and dearly though the lesson would be purchased, they are more and more convinced that there never will be a final settlement of the question till it has been tried.”—*Ipswich Express*.

STATE OF TRADE.

MANCHESTER.—Although some difference of opinion prevailed last week as to the depression in prices, to which we then adverted, all doubts on that point were effectually removed yesterday, when a general, though slight, decline on almost every description of goods and yarn might be considered as fully established.

LEEDS.—There has been more business doing in heavy goods this week, such as low tweeds, which are mostly in request, and are becoming an article of general use in consequence of being lower in price than the fine goods. Business is brisker in the warehouses.

HUDDERSFIELD.—The new year, to which so many anxiously looked, has brought no improvement. Many houses are literally doing nothing, and no one is doing a remunerating business.

HALIFAX.—Trade continues very dull here; all kinds of piece goods are in very limited request. Every branch of trade is inanimate and dull, and in some cases there is a slight decline in prices.

BRADFORD.—We have had a good attendance of buyers to-day, and though no large sales have been effected there is a healthier feeling prevalent in the market.

BOLTON.—The improvement in trade at Bolton still continues, and more work is being given out than there has been for upwards of twelve months.

THE SHEFFIELD BANK.—At the meeting of Messrs Parker and Co.'s creditors, which was held at the banking house at Sheffield on Wednesday last, the solicitor gave as the total amount of engagements, £620,244*l.* These engagements, however, included three sums standing to the credit of the three senior partners, making together £150,958*l.* which the solicitor said would most likely come out of private estates. This would reduce the engagements to £469,286*l.* The whole assets amounted to £707,060*l.* but this sum, it must be observed, includes bad and doubtful debts. At the same time considerable expectations are raised of the private estates of the partners, a great part of which will be available to the creditors. The chairman of the meeting, who was the petitioning creditor, attributed the failure solely to the badness of the times; but there were two items which seemed to make a great impression on the creditors, namely, a loss by the defalcation of a former partner in the concern, amounting to £6,269*l.* and a still larger one by his son, amounting to £29,790*l.* Another loss, by the failure of the bank of Morland and Co., was set down at £6,950*l.*—*Times*.

ANTI-TOLL AGITATION.—There is much lawless destruction of property going on in Wales by parties known only as “Rebecca and her daughters.” The leader, a huge fellow, and his followers, go about in women's clothes. Their first object of destruction was a certain turnpike gate, which they have over and over again destroyed, the police not having been able to prevent them or afterwards trace them out; and as they have now proceeded with other pro-

perty, government have actually sent a detachment of marines from Woolwich to aid the local authorities: the daughters go mounted on horseback. The mode of proceeding is this—“Rebecca” approaches the gate, and says, “My children, has this gate any right here?” They reply, “No;” and the gate is instantly leveled. In consequence of special orders received from the metropolis, the company of royal marines stationed at St Clears to put an end to the riots occasioned by Rebeccas and her daughters, were ordered to return to Milford, and in their stead a detachment of the Castle Martin yeomanry were dispatched. They arrived at St Clears on the 21st ult., and have taken into custody two or three farmers who had refused to pay the tolls. The gate house destroyed on Monday week has not yet been re-erected. Several false alarms have been given of the approach of the rioters; the yeomanry received orders to turn out, but the hoax was discovered before the troop had formed. Every effort to detect the perpetrators of the outrages has proved futile; and Rebecca still holds her foes at bay, having completely gained her object. Conjecture is rife as to who she can be; but the excellence of her disguise and the fidelity of her comrades has hitherto enabled her to escape detection. Sometimes she is represented as wearing a huge mask, studded well with quills and having some resemblance to the porcupine, and at other times she is barefaced; indeed, on all occasions her actions are barefaced enough. The mob are exceedingly well organised, and their *modus operandi* is peculiarly cool and easy. Should the trust determine on re-erecting the gates, dire consequences may be expected to ensue, as the inhabitants of that district are to a man opposed to the obnoxious tolls, and are evidently determined to resist the impost.

GRAND BLAST AT THE DOVER RAILWAY.—The great blast at Rounddown cliff, consisting of 18,500lbs, or 8*1/2* tons of gunpowder, was fired off on Thursday last at two o'clock. Long before this hour, every height (at a respectful distance) commanding a view of the immense cliff intended to be operated upon, was studded with spectators, and excellent arrangements were made by the company to prevent accidents. A line of demarcation was marked off by signals, and police and military were stationed along this line to keep the populace in a safe position. The Rounddown cliff overhanging the sea close to the one whose fearful height is so graphically described in “King Lear” and commonly known by the classic name of Shakespere's cliff. Rounddown is considerably taller than the Shakespere is now-a-days, but from the formation of the latter, and the more immediate exposure of its highest peak to the stormy sea, it is evident that its altitude must have been much greater in the days of the immortal dramatist. The original intention of the South Eastern Railway company was to carry a tunnel through the portion of the height this day blown down, as they have through the bowels of the Shakespere cliff; but from the circumstance of tremendous falls having taken place on either side, during the progress of the works, and from these falls having affected the stability of the cliff, the expedient of blasting it was very judiciously resolved on. A mine, consisting of three cells, was accordingly planned and formed by Mr Cubitt, the engineer of the company, in the base of the cliff, into which the enormous quantity of powder above-named was placed; and the ignition of the charges by the voltaic battery was performed by Lieutenant Hutchinson, of the royal engineers, who was employed lately by Major-general Pasley, in operating against the wreck of the Royal George. Punctual to their arrangement, the miners communicated the electric spark to the gunpowder by their connecting wires on the signal being given: the earth trembled under our feet—stifled report, not loud, but deep, was heard—the base of the cliff, extending on either hand to upwards of 500 feet, was shot as from a cannon from under the super-incumbent mass of chalk, seaward, and in a few seconds, not less, we should say, than 1,000,000 tons of chalk were dislodged by the fearful shock, and fell gently down into the sea below, till it occupied the expanse of many acres, and extended onwards on its ocean bed to a distance of perhaps 2000 or 3000 feet. Tremendous cheers followed the blast, and a royal salute was fired. The sight was, indeed, truly magnificent. Such was the precision of the engineers and the calculations of Mr Cubitt, that it would appear just so much of the cliff has been removed as was wanted to make way for the sea wall; and it is reckoned the blast will save the company £10,000 worth of hand labour. Not the slightest accident occurred. On the cliffs were Major-general Pasley, and Sir J. Herschell, and many engineers, together with a host of scientific men.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On Saturday morning, about half-past four o'clock, the following dreadful accident occurred on the London and Brighton railway. It appears that a ballast engine, called the Venus, Job Smith engine driver, was proceeding towards Brighton. On arriving near the Red hill station one of the company's servants, named Tullett, came out of his cottage by the side of the railway, and held up his lamp to stop the engine, to give instructions to the driver. The steam was shut off and the break put on, but Tullett, it is supposed, got by mistake on the same line as the engine. Smith, the driver, saw the unfortunate man's lantern knocked down the embankment, and immediately exclaimed to the fireman, “We have run over Tullett.” Every exertion was made to stop the engine, but the whole train passed over him. Tullett was picked up and carried into his own cottage. He presented a frightful spectacle; the top and back part of his head were literally cut off, leaving his face uninjured. Although the whole train had

passed over him, none of his limbs were broken, the deceased being knocked down between the metals.

FIRE AT MANCHESTER.—On the night of Saturday last a dreadful fire broke out at Manchester, which has destroyed property to the extent of between £15,000 and £20,000. The flames were first discovered in the warehouses of Messrs Gladstone and Clayton, No. 10, Norfolk street, cotton manufacturers. Mr Rose, with a number of firemen and engines, arrived in a short time, and on getting a proper supply of water commenced playing on the building. The fire continued, however, to increase, and spread to the upper story of the next cotton warehouse, occupied by Mr J. C. Eckhard, No. 11, Norfolk street, which was entirely destroyed. Thence it caught the upper part of the warehouse of Mr Andrew Hall, gingham manufacturer, No. 12, Brown street, which was also destroyed. The rooms underneath were much damaged by the quantity of water thrown on the fire. The engines succeeded in getting the flames under about two o'clock on Sunday morning. The whole of the buildings are the property of Mr John Hall, of Pendleton. During the day, the scene of conflagration, which is in the heart of the town, was visited by thousands of the inhabitants. The adjoining streets were filled with goods which had been rescued from the flames.

HYDROPHOBIA.—In the parish of Sandon, Essex, a respectable farmer, William Rolliston, was standing in the street at the time a dog was passing, and having held out his hand to pat it the animal suddenly tore it in a most shocking manner; he expired in dreadful paroxysms within ten days after the occurrence. The dog afterwards seized a lad by the arm, but being through his clothes, and the boy continuing healthy, it was thought that no evil effects would follow, till on Wednesday morning, the 13th, when he felt an acute pain in the hand, which gradually extended up his arm and across his breast. For a few days the pain abated, much to the surprise of all; but on Monday afternoon his throat became affected, and he was seized with convulsions, which increased in frequency and violence till he expired on Wednesday.

SUPPOSED MURDER.—We deeply regret to state, that yesterday (Friday) intelligence was received here announcing the distressing fact, that the body of Mr. Joseph Zanetti, printseller, of Ann street, in this town, had been found dead early in the morning at a short distance from Bolton. The circumstances under which the body was discovered led to the suspicion that Mr Zanetti had been murdered, and up to a late hour yesterday evening no satisfactory information could be obtained as to the cause of his melancholy death. It appears, that between seven and eight o'clock in the morning a man named Brady, foreman of excavators employed in forming a lodge at Mr Blair's bleachworks, Mill hill, Little Bolton, discovered the body lying in the adjacent river, the water of which was about a foot in depth. He procured assistance, and the body being dragged out was conveyed to Mr Wilkinson's, the Crown inn, Folds, Little Bolton. On examination some cards were found in his pocket, which led to the belief that it was the body of Mr Zanetti, and subsequent inquiries confirmed this belief. There is no public road near the place where he was found, nor was there a current of water sufficiently strong to convey him there from any other place. There is a wound on the right temple, and a contusion at the back of the head, which injuries have led to the belief that he has been robbed and murdered. About noon yesterday the pocket-handkerchief of the deceased was found concealed under a stone only a few yards from the place where the body was discovered. His hat is missing, and every search for it has been made, but in vain. The only money found upon him was one shilling in silver and three-pence in copper. If the unfortunate man has been murdered, it is probable that the perpetrators of the foul deed may be traced from one of the circumstances last mentioned.—*Abridged from the Manchester Times*.

SCOTLAND.

EVIDENCES OF INCREASING DISTRESS.—We learn, what unfortunately can be too well proved, that while the consumption of butcher's meat and of wheaten bread has diminished, the consumption of potatoes and oatmeal has increased in Scotland during the past year. This change has been general and to a great amount. A more distressing indication of the downward progress of the course of popular comfort and well-being could not be found.—*Caledonian Mercury*.

THE PAISLEY WEAVERS.—Her Grace the Duchess of Buccleuch, with the humane desire of mitigating the distress that has so long existed in Paisley, lately ordered six dresses of the newest pattern, and the finest material, from one of the principal manufacturers there, which, when finished, she forwarded to her Majesty, requesting her to choose one for her own use. Her Majesty, on receiving them, replied, that she admired them so much that she must beg the Duchess's permission to keep, not one, but the whole that were sent. The Duchess has since ordered a considerable number of dresses from the same manufacturer; and we trust this benevolent attempt to bring the Paisley manufacturers into fashion among the higher classes will be eminently successful, and restore the long drooping trade of that town.—*Glasgow Paper*.

MYSTERIOUS AND FATAL AFFAIR.—About seven o'clock on the morning of Friday week, a young woman of the name of Henderson, belonging to this town, and a worker at Mr James Aytoun's spinning mills, was found on the side of the street of the Newton of Abbotshall in a state of insensibility. Little more than an hour before she had left her

father's house, at the west end of the town, in good health, for her work at the mill. Medical aid being called, Messrs Cunningham and Macdonald were speedily in attendance, and did all they could for her restoration, which, after several hours' assiduous application, they partially effected. Through the course of the day, after warmth had been obtained, a very limited amount of conscious existence was discovered. She was carried home in the evening, and lingered on till one o'clock on Sabbath morning, when death put an end to her sufferings. She was never able to give a distinct answer to a question all the time she had lived after being resuscitated. But there are some circumstances connected with this strange and serious affair which the authorities are endeavouring to elucidate. Her shawl, and a Highland pouch or sporan, containing pair of men's gloves and a tobacco pipe were found beside her, the latter of which, together with some declarations made by the woman who found her, excited suspicion that there had been some foul play. The police, before mid-day, were making inquiry into the affair. The pouch was identified by the owner, who proved to whom he lent it, for the purpose of guising, as it is called. The Procurator-fiscal, having examined into these matters, found it necessary to take the young man to whom the pouch was lent into custody. A preognition has been going on ever since; a great many individuals have been examined, and the lad is still detained.—*Fife Herald.*

Postscript.

Wednesday, February 1st, 1843.

GREAT LEAGUE DEMONSTRATION AT MANCHESTER.

The first great aggregate and opening meeting of the grand demonstrations of the Anti-corn-law League in this town, was held last night in the new Free trade hall, Peter street. The principal object of the meeting was to give a report of the progress of the great League fund. The meeting was limited to registered members of the League, and deputies from distant towns—a few seats having been reserved for ladies; but, notwithstanding this limitation, the hall was crowded to overflowing. The numbers present have been variously estimated at from 7,000 to 10,000 persons.

Among the principal company on the platform were the following gentlemen:—Mark Philips, Esq., M.P.; T. M. Gibson, Esq., M.P.; Dr Bowring, M.P.; Joseph Brotherton, Esq., M.P.; Colonel Thompson; John Bright, Esq.; Henry Ashworth, Esq.; Thomas Bazley, jun., Esq.; Elkanah Armitage, Esq.; R. H. Greg, Esq.; William Harvey, Esq.; Lawrence Heyworth, Esq.; Charles J. S. Walker, Esq.; and John Brooks, Esq.

GEORGE WILSON, Esq., moved, and JOHN BROOKS, Esq., seconded the motion, that Mark Philips, Esq., M.P., take the chair.

The CHAIRMAN on rising said, said: Ladies and gentlemen—I doubt whether it will be possible for me to make my voice heard at the extremity of this immense building. For it has very rarely fallen to my lot, I assure you, to address so numerous an assembly as the one I now see before me. Certainly it never was my lot to address an audience so large within the walls of any building. I am glad to perceive that your interest, at least in the great object that this meeting has in view, does not flag. On the contrary, from the enormous masses of my fellow-townsmen, and of strangers present here this evening, we have the best possible evidence that the question of the corn laws is one which is as ripe in your minds as it has been at any previous period. He then stated that this committee would produce their report, containing the amount of the collection in aid of the great league fund. An intimation having been given that the report was not quite ready, the Chairman called on Dr Bowring to address a few words to the audience.

Dr BOWRING, M.P., was then called on, and was received with loud plaudits. He said, Mr Chairman, ladies, and gentlemen, I confess I stand awestruck in the presence of a meeting like this. I feel as men are said to feel in the presence of the falls of Niagara [hear, hear]—smitten dumb with the grandeur of the spectacle before them [applause]. Why, when we contrast the state of this question four or five years ago, when in a small room in this town the Manchester Anti-corn-law association was first formed, and contrast it with the magnificent assembly gathered together in this magnificent building, who can doubt what is to be the result of the growth of your opinion [applause]? The beginning, small as a mountain stream, gathering into a great river, and now becoming a magnificent ocean, whose irresistible tides will sweep every fragment of monopoly away [cheers]. Why, my friends, everywhere there is encouragement—aye, and confidence too. We first hoped—aye, and we hoped at first somewhat despairingly. Many of us have read the history of the great combats in which the many have been engaged in resisting the oppression of the few [applause]. We know how hard have been the struggles, how seemingly invincible the difficulties, which men have to encounter who have come forward to assert their rights and to endeavour to redress their wrongs, in a country where legislation hitherto has not represented the interests of the nation, but the interests of a privileged few, and where the interests of the great community have been too often wrapped in forgetfulness and in oblivion [applause]. Denied once and again we may be; but we are assured that there is a triumph—a great triumph in reserve for us; and we already anticipate the time when we shall meet, not to plan the overthrow of these

grievances, but to rejoice and congratulate one another on their final overthrow; when, as the fetters were struck off the limbs of the slave, we shall have unfettered labour—when what was done for the blacks shall be done for the whites [immense cheering]—when you will have emancipated, not some millions of catholics, but the whole of your labouring population of England—when the country we so much love [hear, hear] and so much honour—the country which we believe destined to give a great and noble example to the universal world—will take up her proud position, not as now, to warn, but to instruct mankind; and the lessons of truth and knowledge, and of political economy, uttered in our native tongue, shall be translated into every idiom spoken by civilised men [loud applause]. Advocating the principles of free trade, we have been delighted to see associated with them the principles of peace, the principles of charity—principles upon which the well-being of individuals as of nations are founded. Go on, my friends; you are already recompensed; but be assured that a greater recompence yet awaits you. The honourable member sat down amidst the most enthusiastic cheering.

GEORGE WILSON, Esq., then rose, and read over the names of the various towns which had subscribed to the League fund, with the amount from each.

The CHAIRMAN then introduced MR TAYLOR from London. Mr TAYLOR stated, that they might be surprised that the name of the great metropolis had not been mentioned in this list. He then instanced several of the peculiar difficulties they had to contend with in the metropolis. Before he left London, indeed he heard rumours of a sum of nearly £3,000 that had been collected there; but he begged them to consider that as only the droppings of the over-ripe fruit, that could hang no longer on the branches. At present there were many exertions making throughout London. Corresponding intercourses had been opened with all the twenty-six wards of the city, committees had been appointed in the suburbs and in the metropolitan boroughs, and he assured them that they received daily—he meant the committee that was sitting there—received daily applications of "Where shall we take our money to?" "Who will receive our money?" He would tell them why they had not received it, why they had not asked it from them; because they thought it well to give the full power and impulse of the steam of the League upon London; for those who would give us 5*l.* will probably give then their 25*l.* or 50*l.* [cheers]. In speaking of the organisation of London, he had been reminded that there was, first, a metropolitan association, which had, in the surrounding districts, sixty-eight branches; that those branches were all active now, and were ready to act still more extensively, as soon as the League was among them [cheers]. He had no doubt that a very large subscription would finally result from London [loud applause].

MR GEORGE WILSON stated that the Manchester subscription amounted to £7,000 [tremendous applause].

MR BROOKS then gave a humorous account of the collection of the money in his district.

MR WILSON here stated that the total amount, putting down Manchester at nothing, and London at nothing, and other places, which had yet to be visited, at nothing, was Thirty-nine Thousand, Four Hundred and Nine Pounds, and Tenpence [deafening cheers].

MR PRENTICE intimated that no sum had been mentioned from Ashton-under-Lyne.

MR WILSON announced that the subscription from Ashton was £991 [loud and continued cheering]. He had also to announce the receipt of £60 from the operatives of Hyde, making the present total sum received £40,460 [great cheering].

JOHN BRIGHT, Esq., then came forward, amidst much applause. He said he thought there was but one thing wanting to complete—he had almost said, the triumph of the evening—and that was, that about fifty of the most determined monopolists who existed in either house of parliament should have been compelled to have sat in that gallery, to have witnessed that evening's proceedings [applause]. There was, however, a satisfaction in knowing that that night's proceedings would be carried by the newspapers into every part of the country, and into every part of the civilised world [applause]. And he believed that from the hour when the printing press first began that career which is but in its infancy, and which was to lead on to glorious triumphs, of which, as yet, they had no conception, there never was a sight more magnificent than that; and the printing press had never borne forth to the world a greater testimony—it had never borne forth to the world any testimony to an object more magnificent than that which the Anti-corn-law League, and the universal people of England, now represented in that room, were engaged in. He asked whether their opponents would now say that the League was a petty and paltry association, and that the working classes were not alive to the subject. Monopoly was hostile to liberty of every kind; and there was no further progress to be made in this country in the path of liberty till the barrier of monopoly be overthrown [hear, hear]. He was persuaded that within that barrier there was all that is evil, all that is mischievous, and all that is destructive of human happiness and of national greatness [applause]. He was equally persuaded that beyond that barrier there were glorious fields of conquest yet for them and for their countrymen; and that this country, which God had evidently intended for a great and mighty nation, intended to spread the principles of the religion of his Son throughout the world [applause]. The effects of the

food monopoly were visible in the destitution of the country, and especially of our large towns.

If no mortal man (I quote from a letter in the *Morning Chronicle*) can add to the land in this country as much as the county of Warwick annually—if no mortal man can or dare resist the increase of population in this country, I ask at what point are we driving? The corn law must be repealed; it will be repealed [applause]. It may be repealed by signs and by acts which I will not further allude to, but which will inevitably result from legislation of this character. I would have that it should be repealed, because the intelligence of the people of England has said universally that it shall be repealed [cheers]. Now, who shall triumph—who shall have the victory on that day when this contest shall be decided? The monopolists themselves will have no triumph to talk of. They fight upon a field where they have no vantage-ground on a question like this; and they rush to inevitable defeat. I am persuaded that the time is coming when there will be no sane man in this country who will acknowledge that he ever was in favour of such an infamous and such a diabolical principle as is involved in this law [applause].

They knew perfectly well the fix in which the monopolists were; they knew perfectly well the fix in which the prime minister was; they knew perfectly well that it was impossible to find egress from the difficulties in which the country is now placed, but through the portal which they had opened, and out of the door which for five years they had been pointing at.

You have some members of parliament here; and if I might read them a lecture—but, no, I'll not do that, for they are good members, who don't need to be lectured at all. But I would point them to this glorious meeting, and say—"When you go back to parliament, tell the people what you have seen here. When you go down from some magnificent square, to the house of Commons and back, two or three times a day, do not forget when you see the carriages rolling past, with magnificently dressed lords and ladies, and flunkies without number, do not for a moment forget that Regent street and Parliament street are not England, and that there is a body of people elsewhere, and that you have seen them assemble 10,000 strong in one room, to raise their unanimous voice against the corn laws."

But the farmers of England were about to be their friends.

Those poor, miserable, deluded men fancied that, by being made the cat's-paw, as it were, of the landlords, they could prosper by a law which was beggarly their customers; but the time is coming when that delusion will be entirely swept away. We find them now sinking into a state of distress exceeding, if possible, anything which we have known. I do not rejoice at this myself; it is a shocking thing that large bodies of industrious, honourable, and well-meaning men should be thus plunged into distress, turned out of home, and cast on the wide world, with their wives and children, with no one to look to for succour. But such, I believe, is the path they must tread before we are many years older; and, probably, this year or the next will see the fulfilment of all we have anticipated as to the distress of the agricultural districts. I am persuaded that if Yorkshire and Lancashire would unanimously resolve that their industry should be free, there is no man living who would assume the office of prime minister of this country to say that their industry should be any longer enthralled [cheers]. Now, I ask you to come and help me; there are plenty of men to receive you; there are men who will stand any obliquity; there are men who will spend and be spent in this cause; and let them only have fellow-labourers, and co-operators, and you may rely upon it, this corn-law, this infernal law, this law which will be pointed at for generations to come as the masterpiece of human folly and human crime, shall speedily and for ever be abolished [loud cheers].

A subscription was then entered into in the hall, which John Bard and Sons headed with £100. The greater part of the subscriptions, which could not be less than a thousand in number, however, were shillings, half-crowns, and crowns.

MR MASSIE was then about to address the meeting, when the whole of the gas lights went out, and left the immense audience in complete darkness. Order was, however, preserved, and MR BROWNE stepped forward and said this was no doubt owing to the malice of their enemies. He had received a letter stating that, at the banquet on Wednesday, a man would be in the room to give an alarm that the galleries were falling, in order to destroy the effect of the meeting.

MR MASSIE and Colonel THOMPSON then briefly addressed the meeting.

THE CHAIRMAN said, he was sure it would be a source of great gratification to the meeting to know that the sum subscribed in that room had amounted to not less than £638 4s. 10d. [cheers]. [We understand (says the *Morning Chronicle*) the amount was nearly £1,400, and that the gross sum raised was about £42,000]. He hoped that order would be preserved in leaving the hall. The meeting separated about 11 o'clock. Mr Cobden was not present owing to his recent domestic affliction.

KENSINGTON, LONDON DISTRICT.—On Monday night a meeting of a few friends to complete suffrage took place here. Mr Daw occupied the chair. Mr Vincent attended, and briefly addressed the meeting, illustrative of the principles and objects of the Complete Suffrage Union; and strongly urged the necessity of organisation on the part of those friendly to these objects. At the conclusion of his address, a friendly conversation commenced, which ended in a resolve to form a Complete Suffrage Union. Several names were taken down, as a commencement to the society. It is hoped that the friends of complete suffrage in Tower Hamlets, Westminster, Southwark, and the City, will see the necessity of organising immediately. Mr Vincent will be happy to render them any assistance in his power.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE, THIS DAY.
The supply of English wheat amounts to 2430 quarters. No foreign has arrived. Prices as on Monday.

THE NONCONFORMIST.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"H. James." Strange as it may seem, we think the curate who refused to inter an unbaptised child was more consistent than the dissenter who requested his offices.

"Obed Zeph," "Omega," "T. P." "B—K," and "Honestas," respectfully declined, simply for want of room in the present number, and because, during the session of parliament, we shall be under the necessity of curtailing our correspondence.

"Change in the Ecliptic of the earth" next week.

"A Subscriber." If the sum is under 10*l.*, and the validity of the rate is not disputed, the churchwardens must apply to the civil magistrate for a distraint.

"J. B., Rotherhithe." No distraint can be made upon the goods of a parishioner for a rate respecting which proceedings are pending in an ecclesiastical court; and the preceding answer will set at rest the other question.

"Ebenezer Clarke." If dissenters were now to organise a separate movement for the abolition of church rates, we should condemn it in the first place as impolitic, because certain of being unsuccessful; and in the second place as an evasion of principle.

"A Priestcraft Hater" moots an important question in disadvantageous connexion with personal conduct; we must, consequently, decline inserting his note.

Other letters which are not specifically replied to must be regarded as declined.

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 1, 1843.

SUMMARY.

THE blaze of anti-corn-law agitation, which has flung its light into every corner of the country during the past week, is now shooting up at Manchester, as fires often do towards the end of their career. The work of the League, prosecuted with great energy during the recess, will, on the assembling of parliament, take, of course, a different direction; run into a narrower channel; and meet with impediments of a more stubborn character than heretofore. We have watched the recent fluttering of the whig party with no little suspicion. We learn, without surprise, that Lord John Russell will probably propose a 5*s.* fixed duty on corn, to be gradually diminished, and ultimately to dissolve into total repeal. This is the most specious snare to which the free traders can possibly be exposed. It seems to grant the principle—the main principle contended for, and to ask for nothing but a little delay. If there be not Reform club trickery at the bottom of this—if several other bye movements in the provinces do not indicate the same fatal influence—and if the object of it be not, as far as it reaches, to serve the aristocracy and the landed interest, then we are much mistaken in our judgment. Were we in a position of influence, in connexion with the League, we should make bold to ask—Why the settlement of this question is now assumed by Lord John Russell? He possesses not the confidence of the people. He has avowedly sought the preponderance, in the house of Commons, of the agricultural party. He never favoured any modification of the corn laws, until the ministry, of which he was a member, was exposed to the peril of ignominious expulsion from office. He declared himself only last year against repeal, and in favour of protection. He has never encouraged the agitation of the question. He has proudly stood aloof from all effort on its behalf. What object can he have to serve now but a party one?—an object which, when attained, will make him specially oblivious of all promises. Why is Lord John Russell to be deferred to in the case? If he has changed his opinion, why does he not fall into the ranks of the free traders, and allow Mr Cobden and Mr Villiers to conduct the question which has hitherto been their care? We would ask further—Does Lord John Russell expect to succeed? Would he propose the same measure if his party were in power? Would he bend to the Anti-corn-law party, except for the purpose of making use of the Anti-corn-law party? It may be very well, so long as his lordship is a member of the opposition, to propose a compromise which shall attain two objects—damage the credit of the League, and transfer to himself much of the influence which they have gained at the price of so much labour. We own we like not the re-appearance of this whig upon the stage. A deep game is being played by the faction now out of power, which we trust will be detected and instantly exposed. We have not thought the policy of the League to be the wisest or the best which could have been adopted, but we should most sincerely grieve to see them caught

in, and maimed by, the trap set for them at the Reform club. A few days will show us how Lord John is likely to succeed.

The annual dinner of the Buckingham Conservative association has thrust forward a topic or two for newspaper discussion, calculated to relieve the dullness and dearth of general news, and likewise to indicate the policy and the hopes of the landlord party. The Duke of Buckingham hints, with tolerable clearness, that no modification of the existing corn laws will be allowed, and that the Premier, who was compelled to send back his cotton velveteens (a specimen of which, by the bye, has been kindly forwarded to us, and which, in our judgment, cannot be looked upon by any party without an instant detection of the word "free") has been obliged likewise to renounce his free-trade principles. Whether the aristocracy, whose all may be said, in many instances, to be literally staked on this question, will maintain their position, remains to be seen. It may not, however, be out of place to observe, that when men have made up their minds to brave public opinion, and to stick, at all hazards, to their own interests, they are not very likely to evince symptoms of yielding in that place, above all others, where their cause is most triumphant. If there had been the remotest intention of giving way, even under pressure the most violent, we should have had the first indications of it out of doors.

Subsequently to the writing of our last summary, but previously to the appearance of our last number, Mr Drummond, the private secretary of Sir Robert Peel, expired. It would seem, from something which has escaped the lips of McNaughten, that he had intended to assassinate Sir Robert Peel. The Premier and the Secretary were, in build, not unlike each other, although very unlike in countenance; and to this general similarity Sir Robert probably owed his life. Upon the crime itself we have made our comments in another column.

Trade has exhibited no symptoms of revival during the last week. The failure of the firm of Messrs Parker and Shore of Sheffield has been followed by no striking commercial result for the present; but it is not improbable that it may lead to a vacancy in the parliamentary representation. We are glad, consequently, to perceive the promptitude of the complete suffragists. Should Mr Parker retire from Sheffield, they have determined on inviting Colonel Thompson to stand—a man whose principles are sound; whose intellect is strong and clear beyond those of most of the politicians of the day; whose honesty is unimpeachable; whom to elect would reflect honour on any constituency; and whose success at Sheffield we should imagine to be secure.

Parliament meets to-morrow, and will be opened by commission. The debate on the address to the throne in answer to the royal speech will be entered upon in both houses as a matter of course, and in the house of Lords, we suppose, will be concluded without adjournment. Whether an amendment will be proposed in the house of Commons is uncertain; but in the upper house Lord Stanhope, the great anti-poor-law leader, will, it is said, propose the following, which of course will be negatived without a division:

"And to assure her Majesty that this House will take into its immediate and most serious consideration the present condition of the productive classes in the United Kingdom, with the view of providing for their profitable employment, and for the due remuneration of their industry."

We rejoice to see the spirited determination of the council of the National Complete Suffrage Union to establish a dépôt for tracts. They are now moving in the right direction, and not a single stroke of energy will be ultimately lost.

PARLIAMENTARY PROBABILITIES.

As the period approaches for the opening of the parliamentary session, it becomes more apparent that no advance will be made towards a free trade in corn and provisions. Vague hopes, born of strong desire and prevailing uncertainty, are gradually vanishing, as ghosts are said to do at the crowning of the cock. Silently but steadily, an impression is creeping over the public mind that her Majesty's government will not attempt to lead the Houses of legislature another step in the direction of corn-law repeal. Hitherto, they have "made no sign" to warrant the expectation that they will risk office to save their country from premature exhaustion and irremediable decay. No confused hum indicates their conversion to a more liberal policy. No pencils of light piercing through the ordinary chinks of cabinet secrecy give promise that free-trade principles will be displayed, to please an anxious nation, when the curtain is drawn up. The few presages which have hitherto appeared, are felt to be of a melancholy rather than an exhilarating character—and the shadow which heralds the coming event takes a shape in which none are able to trace the broad outline of deference to an empire's wishes. The fumes of intoxicated hope are passing off, and the country is awaking to the sad and sober reality.

We have ever held it to be the part of wisdom,

as well as of honesty, to view things in their own light—to endeavour to look at them, as we imagine they would present themselves to a disinterested and impartial spectator; and as we find them, so to represent them. We are quite aware that this is not precisely the most likely way to make friends. We are as sensible as can be any of our contemporaries that it is a trying thing to stand alone, and more especially so, when the burden of our predictions happens to be unwelcome. When from rank to rank throughout the land it is buzzed about that "something must be done"—when the enthusiasm of public meetings, kindled by the glowing anticipations scattered on every hand by public speakers, gives rise to a general expectation that something will be done—and when misery, like a ganrene, having already spread itself over the extremities of the social body, is observed to make rapid progress towards the very seat of vitality, and wrings from every one an exclamation that something ought to be done; it is no enviable task to stand up in the face of confident expectations, sanguine hopes, and firm convictions, and deliver, even in the most dispassionate tone, an opinion that nothing is to be done. And yet, if all the probabilities point to this conclusion, we can hardly reconcile it with our notions of honesty to deceive either ourselves or others with pleasing but delusive prospects. Nor will we attempt it. Within a week it will be seen what rational men may calculate upon obtaining—and surely we may be pardoned if now, upon the threshold of the session, we presume to set down a few data upon which, in our judgment, expectation may reasonably be based.

The following facts, then, we think, cannot be excluded from consideration by the sober portion of the community. The minister of the day sought, won, and took office with a distinct view to serve and to save the landed interest. He has yielded already so far to the exigencies of the times as to provoke the suspicion of the party he leads. The necessity, for the purpose of carrying on government on the old aristocratic system, of proposing an odious income tax, created the necessity, also, of wrapping around the hideous measure some flimsy appearances of commercial freedom. The tax has been obtained—has been submitted to—and will be paid. The Premier has now to recover the shaken confidence of those who elevated him to place and power. He commands a crushing majority—a majority returned expressly, and at a tremendous outlay, to maintain agricultural protection. Of these a large, and, politically regarded, the most powerful section, are involved in heavy responsibilities by past extravagance—and are able to discover for themselves no foot-hold between high rents and ruin. They are, as we said, a majority—a banded, compact majority—in the Commons triumphant—in the Lords unassailable. They have in prospect a five years' duration of the existing parliament. The country's purse is in their hands. The army and the police are under their control. The late insurrection has convinced them that against the organised and well-disciplined physical force at their command, the masses, however infuriated, have no chance. The cession of the Reform bill they now believe to have been a mistake, and they imagine that, but for sudden panic, they might, even then, have dictated their own terms. What should now compel them to forego the one object which, at the last general election, they paid down so costly a sum to secure? What to them are public meetings? What, magnificent subscriptions? What, a declining trade? What, a failing revenue? Their necessities are immediate, urgent, clamorous. To grant free trade will be to sacrifice themselves. They passed these laws at the cannon's mouth. Why should they now resign them? None we suppose are counting upon their generosity. Few put implicit faith in their patriotism. Whilst, then, they have a large majority in the house of Commons, we can only expect them to yield to an exigency still more pressing, in their view, than that which dictates the artificial augmentation of rents, a sufficient degree above mortgage mark, to enable them to keep their station. Such an exigency, we imagine, they will be slow to discover. We predict, at all events, they will not do so this session.

Nor are our expectations from the whigs of such kind as greatly to modify the general conclusion at which we have arrived. During their ten years' tenure of office, they avowedly sided with the landed interest. The question of repeal touches them as closely as it does their party opponents. In parliament, they are sufficiently strong to justify them in assuming the lead as an opposition. In the country, their present supporters will be found to comprise a few borough magistrates, elevated by them to office; and that class of retired tradesmen who once professed liberal opinions, but who, having themselves retired from active life, are disposed to think the world had better remain where it is. The object of the parliamentary whigs, without popularity themselves, will be to mount and ride the popularity of others. We pretend not to conjecture the details of the policy they will adopt. Its general bearing, we doubt not, will be this. Their motions will be framed with

sufficient subtlety to steer clear of two extremes—the committal of themselves to free-trade principles, and the committal of the League to any denial of them. The power of the League, out of doors, they will dexterously attempt to harness to the car of their own party designs. By a series of general movements, so planned as to call for no compromise, they will aim to mix up free-traders with themselves, and if possible, to destroy the separate individuality of that party. They will thus, should they succeed, conceal their own weakness, strut through a considerable part of the session in the borrowed strength of the Anti-corn-law League; and when they have presented large minorities in favour of their own meaningless resolutions, and created a suspicion that the League is ready at any moment to subserve their views, they will allow the free-traders to put forth their own distinctive principles, and leave them in a comparatively contemptible minority. This is what we anticipate from the whigs—and it will be well if Reform-club influence and finesse do not achieve for them a triumph.

Such is the estimate we have formed of the amount of difficulty with which the free-traders will have to cope. We shall not anticipate the course they may deem it expedient to adopt. We have heard, indeed, but we shall be slow to give credence to the statement—we have heard that they have no intention of submitting to the legislature, until after the lapse of two or three months, any substantive proposition for "total and immediate repeal." The policy, however, of such a delay appears to us so obviously suicidal, that, if ever it were seriously entertained, we will not wrong the Anti-corn-law League by supposing that it will eventually be acted upon. This would be, indeed, to play the game of the whigs. Lord John Russell could not desire a step more advantageous for his party purposes. By that time, should this plan of campaign be adopted, the excitement raised by the recent vigorous agitation, and by the forthcoming banquet at Manchester, will have been damped down by fixed-duty discussions—suspicions will have been set afloat prejudicial to the character of the League for consistency—the middle classes, who now take so deep an interest in repeal, will have settled down into that fatal helplessness of feeling, which is sure to arise out of a vague persuasion that they are fighting a hard battle only for other parties to reap the results of it—and when at last the question is mooted, it will seem to have been so rather to save appearances than to accomplish a practical good. Were the complete suffrage party in the position of the League, at this moment, we would denounce the policy as timid, unworthy, fatal—we would urge with earnestness upon our representatives to strike while the iron is hot—to give the earliest pledge which the forms of the house would admit of, that compromise would neither be resorted to nor dreamt of—to show to the whole empire that their hope was based upon the will of the people, not upon the tactics of party—and to take such decisive steps as would put beyond a doubt their own sincerity in the cause they had undertaken to conduct.

On the whole, then, we see no reason, as the parliamentary session draws nigh, to modify our previously expressed opinions. A few good measures of minor importance will doubtless be passed, and a great many which are more than questionable. One result, however, we confidently predict—the present legislature will be much more accurately appreciated at the termination, than at the commencement of the session of 1843; and possibly they who are aiming to secure for the people "a full, fair, and free representation," will not be so generally regarded as foolish intermeddlers.

JUSTICE AND REVENGE.

THE sad and greatly lamented death of Mr Drummond, by the hand of the assassin McNaughten, has brought under discussion a topic of deep interest—one requiring, above most others which come within the province of editorial treatment, a far deeper insight into human nature, a much more comprehensive glance at the present condition of society, and a more entire absence of merely party feeling, than almost any other which can engage notice—viz., the true causes of, and the proper remedy for, that increase in the crime of assassination, which men of every political party have not failed to note. With the honourable exception of the *Morning Advertiser*, the metropolitan daily press has evinced a spirit of barbarism, and has emitted a stream of passion upon this subject, reflecting little credit upon the morality of the age. Mr Drummond's death has been seized hold of as an apt occasion for pouring out abuse the most unmeasured against what they designate spurious humanity. Into the causes of one of the most alarming features of the present times, they do not so much as pretend to search, and the cure they prescribe is equally summary and absurd—the infliction of death with unsparing severity upon the wretched criminal.

With all deference, we must insist upon it that this is anything but a becoming treatment of so

grave a question. Taunts leveled at what men are pleased to call a morbid sympathy for murderers, are weapons nigh at hand, and available for those who want both wit and wisdom. Whether a reckless disregard, however, by the executive authority of the realm, of the worth of human life, is the surest way to inspire respect for it in the eyes of the multitude—whether hanging is the best preventive of the crime of assassination—and whether, in proportion as our criminal code is sanguinary and inexorable, life in this country is rendered more secure, none of these papers have attempted to prove, and therefore we must regard their sarcasms as ill-timed and inapplicable. They are a palpable begging of the whole question. They first assume what they ought to demonstrate, and then convert that assumption into a weapon which they tip with gall. As is usual, they attempt to conceal their lack of argument by abuse; and unprepared to grapple with the question at issue, they attack the motives and malign the character of the parties opposed to them.

The frequent assassination of public men in any country indicates somewhere a force which drives unprincipled individuals to that species of wild justice denominated revenge. It proves the wide prevalence of an opinion that injury sustained, or thought to be sustained, at the hands of political leaders, can find no remedy but in private crime—that there is no legitimate channel through which resentment of public wrong can find its proper vent—and that nothing but terror, excited by the uncertainty as to who may be the next victim, will compel those who hold the reins of government to cease from practices of oppression. None but men against whom the avenues of justice are barred are found voluntarily to resort to private vengeance. No adequate motive can be assigned, in the absence of decided insanity, for a man stepping out from the crowd and inflicting death upon a public character to expiate political offences, and that, too, with a certainty of meeting his own fate, but the existence of an ill-defined and vague notion of patriotism, generated by despair in regard to every other remedy. Millions must be burdened with a sense of wrong ere one from amongst those millions deliberately resolves to sacrifice himself in revenge for that wrong; and nowhere but in a country where public men are believed to be placed high above the reach of justice, will frequent appeals be made to the pistol or the knife of the assassin.

This is one of those retributive laws which deal out punishment to the associated perpetrators of social misery. Secured as they may be against public prosecution, their immunity in this respect only exposes them to the chances of encountering individual brutality; and the more they trifle with the welfare of the community, and the more certain they may be of impunity from the application of legitimate means, the more surely will they have to dread the prevalence of wild and indiscriminate revenge.

The frequent resort, in late times, to this species of crime, whether in this or in a neighbouring country, must be regarded as indicative of widespread infidelity. Respect for life can have no strong hold upon the hearts of those who view death as the extinction of being. There cannot be a doubt that disbelief of Christianity pervades, to an awful extent, all classes of society. The terrible misrepresentation of divine truth exhibited by a state church—the avarice of its clergy—their sympathy with despotism—the arbitrary and oppressive practices resorted to in maintenance of their claims—their narrowness of mind—their bigotry—their pompous assumptions of exclusive spiritual authority—their denunciation of every other sect—their worldliness and their inconsistency—have driven myriads into the false conclusion that Christianity is nothing better than a specious system of priestcraft, devised, and incessantly applied, to keep down the spirit of the poor. The march of intelligence has enabled them to detect the intrinsic hollowness of this grand religious pretence; and rushing from one extreme to another, they quit the establishment only to take refuge in downright infidelity. Here, then, we find another cause to which the growing disregard for human life must be traced up. Unbelief, treated with injustice, becomes a reckless foe; and the oppression which might have been submitted to by people in whose bosoms there is faith in unseen realities, will soon provoke mortal revenge where such faith has neither place nor power. The church of England we hold to be responsible for a vast amount of that infidelity which necessarily holds life cheap, and readily seeks the attainment of its objects, even though it be by the effusion of human blood.

Nor do we think the legislature of this country to be, by any means, exempt from blame in the matter. Invariably have they sanctioned murder, even the foulest, on a national scale. Where great political objects are to be gained, human life has never been suffered to stand in the way. In Canada, in Syria, in China, in Afghanistan, the sword has been resorted to without the smallest misgiving, to carve out questionable rights, or successfully to assert unquestionable wrong; and the leaders of these enterprises against man's well-being have been

rewarded with aristocratic titles, and repaid with splendid pensions; whilst, at home, public executions, proved by experience to be utterly inefficient as a means of warning to the criminal, calculated only to feed the lowest and most brutal tastes of the populace, hardening hearts already hard enough before, and making violent death a mere plaything in the estimation of a delighted throng, having been retained with the utmost pertinacity, and are even now applauded and abetted by the press, which wonders at the increase of cold-blooded murder. The fact is, that the whole tendency of our public and political *regime* has a deteriorating influence upon private morality, and genders an extreme carelessness in regard to human life. Man, as man, is not dealt with reverentially; and there is therefore little wonder that man, as an individual, is treated with small respect. Whatever lowers our view of human nature throws down the breast-work of defence raised by public opinion for the protection of private life; and they who are taught to view with indifference bloodshed by wholesale will soon, when the temptation offers, resort to its practice in individual cases. Assassination at home is but the reflex of that immorality which coolly determines upon slaughter abroad, and of that impolicy which takes life by law, where the taking of life answers none of the ends of justice.

THE STRIKE.

ITS HISTORY, CAUSES, AND CONSEQUENCES.

(From a Manchester Correspondent.)

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions contained in these papers.]

XIII.

Friday—Excitement in Manchester—A Mob fired upon—Important Delegate Meetings—Resolutions—Charter—Ashton Conference—Its End.

FRIDAY morning witnessed a great increase of excitement in Manchester and its immediate neighbourhood. It was generally known that a few of the master dyers and printers intended to endeavour to recommend. Crowds collected by break of day; and individuals kept watch in suspected places, with a view of preventing the resumption of labour. The very few shops which recommended were stopped again immediately. So complete was the suddenly-made arrangement of the turn-outs, that the stoppages were effected, and the crowd dispersed, before the police were fully aware that any such attempts had been made. Amongst the print works, the hands in which in part returned to work, was Messrs Wilsons', in Salford. Here some men had been armed in anticipation of any attempt to impede the workmen. An hour after work had commenced, a large body of turn-out dyers and printers marched to the place and demanded that the hands should be at once dismissed. The demand was resisted. Stones were thrown. Windows had been broken, and the gates were on the point of being forced, when one of the armed men fired upon the attacking party. The blunderbuss was merely loaded with shot, and was fired low, but six persons were wounded. This exasperated the mob instead of intimidating them. The attack was furiously renewed. Fortunately for the inmates of the works a company of soldiers arrived, and dispersed the crowd just as the gates were forced open. The wounded were taken home, or to the dispensaries. The report of the conflict and its results spread all over the town. The number of wounded was duly magnified, and a long list of killed was soon added by lovers of the marvelous to the imaginary casualties. Up to this time no collisions more serious than the street affrays between the disorderly minority and the police had taken place. This was the first case of firing. As the wounded were carried along, followed by a large crowd, amid the completest silence, the spectacle and the reflections natural to arise from it were sad indeed. It seemed like the opening scene of a tragedy—the plot unknown and yet to appear; but the dark incidents to be revealed in its course suggested by the sombre hue of the commencement.

Two most important meetings of delegates took place this morning in Manchester. The first was held at the Sherwood inn, Tib street; it was called together by a resolution (copied in the account of Thursday's proceedings) passed at a hastily convened meeting, consisting chiefly of the leaders of the assemblage dispersed by the magistrates. It was a gathering of chartists, and of such of the trades as usually acted with that section of reformers. About two hundred persons, deputed by meetings of mill hands and trades, including a number of persons from towns on the more distant parts of Lancashire and in Yorkshire, were present. At twelve o'clock James Farrell was called to the chair. A long and earnest discussion ensued. Ultimately the following resolutions were unanimously passed:—

"1. That we, the delegates representing the various trades of Manchester and its vicinities, with delegates from various parts of Lancashire and Yorkshire, do most emphatically declare, that it is our solemn and conscientious conviction that all the evils which afflict society, and which have prostrated the interests and energies of the great body of producing classes, arise solely from class legislation; and that the only remedy for the present alarming distress and wide-spread destitution, is the immediate and unmitigated adoption, and carrying into law, of the document known as the people's charter."

"2. That this meeting recommend the people of all trades and callings to forthwith cease work until the above document becomes the law of the land."

The other delegate meeting was the enlarged adjournment resolved upon by the five trades, whose resolutions have been already given at length. At two o'clock, the hour of meeting, Carpenter's hall was crammed with delegates and others. John Middleton was again called to the chair. The pro-

ceedings were of the most animated character. Men who never had taken council together before—men from the very lowest paid, and from the best paid trades—the mere "labourer," and the artizan, found themselves at last side by side—all placed in one position—all asking what to do. Much diversity of opinion—or rather, of degree of opinion, was discovered by the speeches delivered. A great number of speeches were made: all seemed fully impressed with the high hopes by which those who uttered them were sustained, and urged on. The greatest difference of opinion was manifested, when a resolution pledging the delegates, on behalf of their constituencies, to cease from labour until the charter became the law of the land, was submitted. A large party, principally of the poorer portion of the working men, was in favour of the instant adoption of this resolution. Another party, equally large, appeared to be in favour of such a cessation from labour as that recommended in the resolution, but objected to resolve upon it then, considering it premature to do so. A small party stubbornly opposed the resolution; and as these men were influential parties amongst the trades' unions, their council was followed, and the resolution was withdrawn. By general approval it was decided to leave the future course of the men on strike to the decision of a general meeting of delegates from all trades. The following resolutions were passed: the first and second with some dissentients, the rest unanimously:—

"1. That we the delegates representing the various trades of Manchester and its vicinities, with delegates from various parts of Lancashire and Yorkshire, do most emphatically declare that it is our solemn and conscientious conviction, that all the evils that afflict society, and which have prostrated the energies of the great body of the producing classes, arise solely from class legislation; and that the only remedy for the present alarming distress and wide-spread destitution, is the immediate and unmitigated adoption, and carrying into law, of the document known as the people's charter."

"2. That a trades' delegate meeting be held at the Sherwood inn, Tib street, on Monday, August 15, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, to which every trade in Manchester is particularly requested to send a delegate to represent its opinions at the present truly important crisis; and that this meeting pledges itself not to commence work again until such delegates have come to a decision; and likewise call upon all other trades who have ceased labour to remain out till that time.

"3. That the meeting call upon the shopkeepers to convene a public meeting forthwith, for the purpose of electing delegates to confer with the trades' delegates, as to the best means to be adopted.

"4. That this meeting individually and collectively pledge itself to become the conservators of the public peace, to disown the destruction of property, and will assist to arrest any whom they find trying to create a breach of the peace.

"5. That this meeting begs of the working classes not to use any intoxicating drinks, until the People's charter becomes the law of the land.

"6. That the best thanks of this meeting be given to the five mechanical trades, who took the responsibility and expense upon themselves to convene the two meetings which have been held in this hall on Thursday and Friday.

"7. That placards be printed and posted in Manchester and Salford to give publicity to the resolutions carried at this meeting; and that each trade pay its part of the expenses incurred.

"8. That the best thanks of the meeting be given to the Chairman."

The proceedings did not terminate until eight o'clock in the evening. So great was the interest felt in the proceedings, that many thousand persons congregated about the doors of the hall, to learn the nature of the resolutions. About four o'clock the crowd was so immense that the magistrates proceeded to the spot with a large force of horse and foot, and cleared the ground.

The delegates "from various parts of Lancashire and Yorkshire" were *hors de la loi*, if the letter of the resolution calling the meeting had been adhered to. The persons present, not delegated to attend, were in the same position. Had those parties been excluded, and the deliberations been carried on exclusively by the "deputations from trades and professions" specified in the original resolution, the decisions might have been, at this period, a little modified. Some of the "united-labour" men, who, no doubt, wished to do something in favour of their peculiar panacea, were not pleased at the advent of the parties above alluded to, any more than that the first resolution should be the one previously adopted at the chartist delegate meeting. However, the excitement was so great that "trifles" like these were not much minded.

Many trade meetings were held in the course of the day. The joiners met, and resolved to stand out; they also agreed to join a procession to escort Mr Feargus O'Connor into Manchester on Tuesday, August 16, the anniversary of the tragedy of 1819. In the evening the walls were covered with placards announcing meetings of trades and shops, "to consider what steps should be taken with regard to the great delegate meeting to be held on Monday, August 15."

In Ashton, a conference took place this day between the master manufacturers and spinners, and a deputation from the operatives' committee. The meeting was, like a former one, brought about by the "shopkeepers' and tradesmen's committee." The operatives had no clear proposition to lay before the masters, and the masters had evidently no terms to offer to the men. A long discussion on wages, equality of prices, short time, and the ten hours' bill, occupied the time. Mutual good wishes were plentifully uttered, and the conference ended.

The morning and evening meetings took place, as usual, in the open air. The leaders were nearly all away, "stirring up" other towns, and the people took breath after their arduous labours. Many adventurous spirits—men whose souls could not brook the thought of Ashton homes "when danger called them forth," were scattered over the country in small bodies, gleaning information, urging on the lukewarm, stimulating the wearied and the lagging, and playing the part of "heroes" everywhere.

The Queen and Prince Albert have respectively transmitted the sum of £50 in aid of the erection of

an asylum at Denbigh for the reception of the insane poor of North Wales. There are at the present time no less than 664 persons suffering from insanity, without any provision for their protection or comfort. The Prince of Wales appears as a donor of 100 guineas. The fund already amounts to upwards of £3250.

CABINET COUNCIL.—A cabinet council was held at the Foreign-office on Monday at 2 o'clock; all the ministers were present. At this council the royal speech on the opening of parliament was considered, previous to its being submitted to her Majesty for approbation at a privy council, which it is expected would be held at Windsor castle on Tuesday. Mr. Philip Miles, the member for Bristol, is expected to second the address in the house of Commons.

At the meeting of parliament, on Thursday, next, we understand the Earl of Stanhope will move the following amendment to the address:—"And to assure her Majesty that this house will take into its immediate and most serious consideration the present condition of the productive classes in the United Kingdom, with a view of providing for their profitable employment, and for the due remuneration of their industry."—*Post.*

It is said that the Duke of Cleveland will move the address in the house of Lords in answer to her Majesty's speech on the opening of the session, and Lord Courtenay, the eldest son of the Earl of Devon, will move it in the Commons. The *Glasgow Courier* affirms that the Earl of Eglinton and Winton will second the address in the house of Lords.

Sir Robert Peel left town on Saturday immediately after the termination of the examination of the assassin, M'Naughten, at Bow-street, for Windsor (proceeding to Slough by the Great Western railway), and arrived at the castle a few minutes before three o'clock. The right hon. baronet had an immediate audience of her Majesty, and remained at the castle for upwards of an hour. The Queen was, on Saturday, informed for the first time, that the murderer of Mr. Drummond had admitted that he had imagined it was Sir R. Peel whom he had shot, and not the unfortunate gentleman who had fallen a victim to his murderous attack. Her Majesty, upon this circumstance being related to her, is said to have evinced much emotion. Sir R. Peel took his departure from the castle for Slough shortly after four o'clock, and returned to town by the railway.

The Duke of Buccleuch, it is said, has acquired a territory in our American colonies, and is about to translate or transport as many of his tenants in Liddesdale as will go.

Friday's *Gazette* contains the formal announcement of Sir Charles Metcalfe's appointment to the governor-generalship of Canada.

The same also contains the appointment of Viscount Melville, Lord Belhaven, H. H. Drummond, Esq., James Campbell, Esq., G. Twisleton, Esq., Rev. Dr. P. Macfarlane, and the Rev. James Robertson, as commissioners for inquiring into the practical operation of the poor laws in Scotland.

COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH AUSTRIA.—A commercial treaty has been formed by Austria with England, Prince Metternich having, in the course of last autumn, had interviews with Mr Macgregor, of the board of trade, for the purpose. It is rumoured that English merchandise will be admitted into the vast dominions of the Emperor of Austria, which have a population of thirty-five millions of souls, on exceedingly favourable terms. We are not, however, able to say whether the treaty is actually concluded, as we are assured that the Austrian government wished to stipulate for the admission of its corn into England, on duties correspondingly favourable. It would be a pretty confession for Sir Robert Peel to make, that England had been invited by Austria to freedom of trade, and had declined the invitation.—*Leeds Mercury.*

THE INCOME TAX.—By the way, I have heard a strange story relative to this income tax. It is whispered in secret tory conclaves, that a flaw has been discovered in the act which renders it perfectly null and void! It seems curious that, if such be the case, the number of sharp eyes which have been actively engaged on the work should not have already discovered the crack, and I am not disposed to vouch for the correctness of the statement; but this I know, that the matter has been, and is now, a subject of anxious confidential discussion at the Carlton club.—*Correspondent of Glasgow Citizen.*

LAW AND POLICE.

PRACTICES OF SERVANTS.—At Marlborough street, William Law, under butler to John Gladstone, Esq., 6, Carlton gardens, was charged with having plundered his master of a quantity of wax candles. For some time past Mr Gladstone had entertained a suspicion that his consumption of wax candles was greater than needful, but nothing occurred to induce him to believe that he was robbed by his servants until recently. A day or two ago he sent for Mr Davies, his wax-chandler, and asked him if it was the custom for servants to dispose of wax-candle pieces, and was answered in the affirmative. On asking Mr Davies if he had purchased any pieces from any of his servants, Mr Davies said he had bought a quantity last Thursday from the prisoner, which was not melted up, as usual, on account of some circumstances of suspicion which it was advisable to have cleared up—Mr Davies's warehouseman weighed the parcel, and found it weighed 44lbs., for which the sum of £2 18s. was paid to the prisoner. After the prisoner had left, witness examined the candles, and finding there were pieces among the lot which had never been lighted, he went to the

clerk and mentioned the circumstance. Mr Davies said that it was the regular practice throughout the trade to buy wax-ends and scrapings from gentlemen's servants. From the highest to the lowest house in the trade the custom was adopted. In fact, in some cases it was almost a recognised system of plunder; for if a number of pounds of wax candles were sent in by some tradesman, the servants regularly sent back a quantity untouched, and were paid for it. In oil the same practice was adopted; indeed, he had known that where seventy gallons were sent in, no less than twenty-five gallons were returned and allowed to the servant. The fault arose from the neglect of gentlemen looking after their servants and tradesmen. If gentlemen took the trouble to attend to their household affairs they would find a wonderful diminution in the amount of their yearly bills. The prisoner declined saying anything, and was fully committed.

THE BLASPHEMOS PUBLICATIONS.—At Bow street Police office, on Friday, Thomas Patterson was brought up under four warrants, issued some time back on the prosecution of government, charging him with exposing certain blasphemous publications in Holywell street. Patterson was partly defended by his counsel, Mr Thomas, who took some technical objections that were overruled; and he partly defended himself, reading professedly for that purpose some papers which are said to have been outrageously blasphemous, and they were eventually taken from him. In three of the cases he was fined 40s.; and refusing to pay the fines, he was committed to prison for one month. The fourth case was postponed till Tuesday.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.—The 100th sessions since the establishment of the court, and the 4th during the present mayoralty, commenced on Monday. The following are some of the most important offences to be brought under the notice of the court:—Murder, 1; manslaughter, 2; misdemeanour, 9; embezzlement, 9; housebreaking, 8; horse stealing, 2; sheep stealing, 1; perjury, 1; highway robbery, 1; receiving stolen property with a guilty knowledge, 9; obtaining by false pretenses, 1; fraud, 1; larcenies of various kinds, 126. The judges to preside are, Lord Chief Baron Abinger, Mr Justice Williams, and Mr Justice Maule. Considering the limited interval since the court last adjourned, the calendar contains an unusual number of prisoners. The trials of M'Naughten and the Rev. Dr Bailey, who is charged with forging a check for £2,875, will excite great public interest, and must necessarily occupy considerable time. It is supposed that before the grand jury are discharged the number of committals will far exceed 300. In the Recorder's charge, on Tuesday, to the grand jury, distinct allusion was made to the case of M'Naughten, and the defence which might possibly be set up. The Recorder observed that the question of the sanity or insanity of the prisoner could in no case be tried by the grand jury; and he instanced a case in which a bill had been thrown out by a grand jury on the ground of insanity, when the learned judge, Baron Alderson, said they had done wrong, because they had thereby deprived the public of the security which they should have derived from the confinement of the prisoner. The learned Recorder quoted the provisions of the act 39 and 40 Geo. III., c. 94, s. 2, by which it was directed that in cases of supposed insanity a jury may be impaneled to try the sanity or insanity of the person; and in cases of the insanity being proved, the person shall be confined at the pleasure of the sovereign. Towards the conclusion of the charge, the learned judge observed further, with regard to the defence of insanity—"If it were to be considered that the enormity of a crime was sufficient to establish the existence of insanity in the person committing it, there would be no security for life. If it were once determined that the mere malignity of a crime afforded ground for supposing that the person who committed it was of unsound mind, the very foundations of society would be shaken."

STRIKE OF THE DUFFRYN COLLIES.—On Saturday last, Thomas Pugh, Evan Beddoe, William Williams, David Morgan, Edward Llewellyn, and T. Davies, colliers, in the employ of T. Powell, Esq., at the Duffryn collieries, in the parish of Aberdare, appeared to summonses obtained against them by Mr T. Bevan, the agent of Mr Powell, charging them with having on the 17th inst., absented themselves from their work, and continued to absent themselves from against the tenor of their contract. Mr T. Williams then deposed as follows:—I am the resident agent of Mr Powell, at the Duffryn colliery; I engaged T. Pugh about seven months ago, he was cutting coal for the use of the engine before I employed him to cut coal in the pit. I never paid him before I engaged him; I engaged him about seven months ago as a collier; the engagement took place under ground when he was going to work; I engaged him to go on with the work at the same price, and subject to the same customs as in the neighbouring works of Cwimbach; I paid once a month, and gave advance in the middle of the month; all the colliers were under the same kind of payment; he continued in the employment until last Tuesday; the accounts were made up every month; T. Pugh left the employment last Tuesday, he has not since worked; he has not given a month's or any other notice, nor did he give any intimation of his intention to leave; I believe there are thirteen days' wages coming to him which he has not demanded. Mr Russell, solicitor to the workmen, submitted there was no case made out against his client, the complaint was not proved, there being no evidence of the custom of Cwimbach. After further investigation, however, the magistrates decided that the offence was clearly proved. The other cases were similarly proved. Mr Davis, however, solicitor to Mr Bevan,

said as he had succeeded in obtaining a conviction, that he should not press for the immediate punishment of the defendants, and was disposed to give them an opportunity of returning to their work, upon which the defendants obtained the permission of the magistrates to retire; and having done so, and consulted with the rest of the colliers, of whom there were about 100 present, they presently returned, and David Morgan announced that they had all come to the determination to return to their work on the following Monday. The magistrates assented to this, and adjourned to Thursday, the 2nd of February next, then to award judgment in case the colliers should not return to their work on the Monday.

METROPOLITAN.

ASSASSINATION OF MR DRUMMOND.—The postscript of our last number contained the sad intelligence of the death of Mr Drummond, which took place within a few minutes of eleven o'clock. This event was not unexpected, for the unfortunate gentleman had been gradually sinking from an early hour the previous night, and at length expired, as is supposed, from sheer exhaustion, occasioned by a copious loss of blood. He is said to have retained the full possession of his senses to the last moment of existence. "His career, thus prematurely and lamentably closed," says the *Times*, "had not been a useless or unhonoured one. Having entered into the service of the state as a clerk of the treasury at an early age, his assiduity, fidelity, and good humour introduced him to the more immediate patronage of the minister of the day. As private secretary to the present Earl of Ripon, when Chancellor of the Exchequer, he displayed those qualifications which recommended him successively to the notice of Mr Canning, the Duke of Wellington, and Sir Robert Peel. Under these statesmen it was his lot to discharge, for nearly twenty years, duties which are only inferior to those of a cabinet minister, because they are less conspicuous, but the faithful discharge of which can alone alleviate the anxieties and mitigate the asperities of official station."

THE INQUEST.—The inquest on Mr Drummond was held at the Lion and Goat tavern, in Lower Grosvenor street, on Thursday, before Mr Gell, the coroner for Westminster, and a respectable jury. The evidence adduced was almost a repetition of that given before Mr Hall at Bow street, on Saturday. A *post mortem* examination was made in the morning by Mr Charles Guthrie, jun., in the presence of Dr Chambers, Dr Hume, Mr Guthrie, Mr Bransby Cooper, and Mr Jackson. The report of these gentlemen described the internal injury caused by the ball, which entered the ridge of the back bone, and forced its way to within ten inches of the pit of the stomach, the part where it was extracted. The five gentlemen considered the wound to be inevitably fatal. After hearing the evidence, the jury immediately returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against Daniel M'Naughten, and the coroner issued his warrant for the prisoner's removal from Bridewell to Newgate, there to await his trial at the next sessions of the Central Criminal court. Policeman Silver, Mr Hodge, and Mr Guthrie, were formally bound over to prosecute. Mr Maule, however, said that he would undertake the prosecution.

THE PRISONER M'NAUGHTEN.—Shortly after the death of Mr Drummond the intelligence was communicated to the prisoner, who turned very pale, and was for a short time slightly agitated, but soon regained his usual composed manner; he had been previously informed that Mr Drummond was in a hopeless state, and must therefore have been prepared for such a communication; but still it was noticed that the prisoner seemed to treat the matter with indifference. An official gentleman arrived in Glasgow from London on Sunday week, for the purpose of receiving information regarding M'Naughten. This was principally procured at the house of the assassin's father, who is described as a very respectable man. The following facts are gleaned from the Glasgow papers:—

M'Naughten's father was a wood turner in Stockwell street, Glasgow. Daniel was apprenticed to his father: he once left his family for eighteen months, and came to London. His father fetched him back; and for a time he was remarkable for his steady attention to business. In 1839 he sold his business and took another excursion. About a year back he succeeded to his father's business, which he soon sold and left home. During almost all the time he was in business in Glasgow he lived in his workshop, cooked his own victuals, and otherwise attended to his own wants. He was a radical in his politics, and inclined to infidelity in religion. Both in politics and religion, however, his views were regarded by those who knew him as more speculative than practical. It appears that M'Naughten, upwards of two years ago, showed symptoms of mental aberration. To the landlady with whom he at that time lived he had repeatedly expressed his opinion that there were devils in human shape seeking his life; and one day he showed her a pair of pistols, and declared his determination to use them against his tormentors. About a year ago, it is also reported, that he applied to the police here for protection against tory persecutors, who sought his life. Amongst other matters, the father recollects that his son had told him, about the beginning of last summer, that he was going to call on Sir James Campbell, the lord provost. On application to his lordship it appeared that, about the end of May, or beginning of June, M'Naughten did call at his residence in Bath street. There he had some conversation in the hall with M'Naughten, who is described by the Lord Provost as having spoken very coolly, although evidently labouring under some hallucination of mind. He told the Lord Provost, with great earnestness, that he had been incessantly watched and dogged by certain parties who had an ill-will towards him. He said they had forced him from his home by their spiteful machinations, and the very night before they had obliged him to fly to the fields in the suburbs for refuge. Sir James Campbell (lord

provost) asked the name of the complainant, which he gave, and also the name of his father, and afterwards reasoned with him as to the folly of his notion. Sir James likewise inquired, pretty broadly, whether he had ever been treated as if it had been suspected there was anything wrong with his (M'Naughten's) intellects; and, having been replied to in the negative, seriously advised him to consult his relations or some medical man as to the state of his health. At this visit he talked neither of religion nor politics, but shook his head, and said that "he could not get rid of them all." The father of the assassin says that he could not do with his son at all in his place of business, he was frequently reading books, and keeping others from their work. From the first he was very abstracted, and parsimonious to a proverb. He always spoke furiously against the conservatives of Glasgow, frequently declaring that they and Mr Lamond, their agent, were constantly against him. After disposing of his materials and the good-will of the business (wood turner), he left Glasgow *en route* to France, with nearly 1,000 sovereigns in gold on his person. He did go on the continent, where he remained for some time; but, according to his own account, he had never been more than fifty miles from the coast. He subsequently returned, and has resided for several months past in Poplar row, New Kent road, in the house of Mrs Dutton, a respectable widow. Mrs Dutton never observed him reading newspapers or any other publication; but once, when confined to his bed with a cold, she lent him a religious book, which he appeared to read with interest. He gave the impression of having something on his mind. When M'Naughten last took up his abode with Mrs Dutton he had a miserable wardrobe: he had only one shirt; after the first fortnight he procured a second, and they were washed alternately; he possessed only two pairs of socks, and a flannel waistcoat; a fortnight ago he borrowed of a shoemaker a pair of old boots while his own were mended."

THE EXAMINATION.—On Saturday the assassin M'Naughten was again examined before the Bow street magistrates, in the presence of a crowded court. A great number of witnesses were examined, and from the evidence given by Inspector Tierney of the A division, no doubt remains as to the intended victim of the prisoner's designs. The following is the material part of his evidence, with the conclusion of the examination:—

Witness.—I then said, I suppose you are aware who the gentleman is you shot at. He said, "Sir Robert Peel, is it not?" I said, "No" at the moment, but instantly recalled the word, and said, "We are not aware exactly who it is yet;" but recollect the caution I gave you last night, for anything you say may be used against you. The prisoner, who was sitting down at the time, looked up at me, and said, "But you won't use this or these words against me." I said, "I don't know; I give you a proper caution." I said nothing more, but immediately left him.

Mr Maule.—This is all, I believe, sir.

Mr Hall (to the prisoner).—You have heard what the witness has said, do you wish to put any questions to him?

Prisoner.—No.

Mr Hall.—You shall have the evidence read carefully over again, and then you can do as you please. (To the witness). Have you told us everything that passed?

Witness.—I have, to the best of my recollection.

Mr Maule.—That is the case on behalf of the prosecutor, sir.

Mr Hall (to the prisoner).—When you were last brought before me, I told you you might make any statement you thought proper, having previously given you a caution that whatever you said would be taken down in writing, and used against you. You must consider that caution now repeated. Do you wish to say anything more?

Prisoner.—No, sir.

Mr Hall.—You have already made a statement, which was taken down in writing, do you wish to have that read over to you?

Prisoner.—No.

Mr Hall.—For your information I must tell you that you will not be brought up again before me. I shall commit you to-day to take your trial; the sessions at which you will be tried will commence on Monday next, but I cannot say what day may be fixed upon for your trial.

The witnesses, having signed their depositions, were bound over to give evidence upon the trial of the prisoner at the Central Criminal court.

Mr Hall.—Prisoner, you are entitled to have, if you please, a copy of the depositions given to you; therefore, if you wish to have them, say so.

Prisoner.—Yes. I should like to have them.

Mr Burnaby.—Prisoner, you stand committed to Newgate to take your trial for wilful murder.

The prisoner, whose demeanour throughout had been extremely calm and collected, bowed respectfully to the Court, and was removed from the bar.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR DRUMMOND.—The funeral of the late Mr Drummond was to have taken place yesterday, his family having resolved that the interment shall take place in the church at Charlton, near Woolwich, of which parish the Rev. Arthur Drummond, brother to the deceased, is rector. It may be recollected that Mr Percival, who was shot in the lobby of the house of Commons by Bellingham, was interred in a vault in this church—a singular coincidence that two persons engaged in political affairs, who had fallen by the hands of assassins, should lie beside each other in death.

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL.—On Thursday a court was held for the despatch of business. Upon the motion of Mr Hall, the chairman of the City Lands committee, to whom it was referred to consider the propriety of taking down the present courts of justice in Guildhall, and of erecting new courts in lieu thereof, and to procure plans and designs, the subject was taken into consideration. The alterations recommended by the report were extensive, and the works could be carried into effect at an expense not exceeding £18,000. Mr W. Lawrence opposed the report. The court might, as the estimate made was £18,000, calculate that it would reach in reality £25,000; and, after all, it would be a heavy expenditure without the chance of a return. He would rather see £50,000

laid out well, than half the sum spent in imaginary improvements. After some further discussion the report was ordered to lie on the table, with the understanding that the chairman may move for its further consideration on a future day. Sir John Key presented a petition from the inhabitants of Lime street, Leadenhall street, Fenchurch street, and the vicinity, praying the court to make arrangements for the widening of Lime street. After some discussion, the petition was referred to the London Bridge committee. The court then adjourned.

THE NATIONAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.—A public meeting of the National Temperance society was held on Monday week at Exeter hall, Benjamin Rotch, Esq., B.L., in the chair. The hall was crowded with the members, friends, and supporters of the society, and of the advocates of the principle of total abstinence. The great proportion of the assembly belonged to the middle and working classes. The purpose of the meeting was solely to state the plans and intentions of the society, no resolutions being proposed for the consideration of the audience. Among the large number of gentlemen on the platform were J. S. Buckingham, Esq.; Dr Duncan; Rev. G. B. Macdonald; Rev. T. Spencer; Rev. C. Stovel; Col. Baker; Rev. J. Sherman; Isaac Collins, Esq., Philadelphia; J. D. Bassett, Esq., banker; R. Barrett, Esq.; William Cash, Esq.; G. W. Alexander, Esq., banker, celebrated for his anti-slavery labours; Jos. Eaton, Esq., &c., &c. The Chairman opened the business briefly; and, having read a letter of apology from Father Mathew for not being present, called upon Mr Bowley, who dwelt upon the importance of forming district associations in the country, in furtherance of the leading principles of the society. He also enlarged upon the advantages resulting from the distribution of tracts and the circulation of periodicals, as a means of checking the monster vice. It was universally admitted that intoxicating drinks were unnecessary for health, unnecessary for labour, and unnecessary for real intellectual enjoyment. The speaker concluded by giving some lamentable instances of the brutality and cruelty induced by drunkenness, and the demoralisation which prevailed among the humbler classes, owing to the example set them by the rich. J. S. Buckingham, Esq., stated some facts, with regard to the progress of temperance in Ireland, of a highly encouraging nature. The Rev. J. Sherman narrated a fact of a person who had taken the pledge, whose labours were of the most arduous and fatiguing description; he stood for eight hours every day before a large fire, perspiring continually; and after three years' experience of the pledge he bore testimony to the benefits derived from it, not only by himself, but by his wife and family. The rev. gentleman regretted the feeling in favour of the operations of the society was not more prevalent amongst the ministers of the gospel. The Rev. G. B. Macdonald, of Leeds, contrasted the appearance of the assemblage on that occasion, in support of reclaiming sixty thousand drunkards, with the display of wealth, rank, and talent which had been gathered together when Prince Albert presided at the meeting to promote the civilisation of Africa; and contended that it was the duty of the pure philanthropist first to look at the white men at home, and then direct his sympathies to the woolly race of Africa. The rev. gentleman spoke of the benefits he himself had experienced from being a teetotaler; of the opposition of medical men generally, which he much regretted; and of the immense comfort and advantages which would result to the social and domestic circle were the bottle discarded. The Rev. C. Stovel, the Rev. T. Spencer, Mr Hunt, and Mr Alexander also addressed the meeting on the objects of the society, and the advantages of habits of temperance.

At the meeting of the Marylebone vestry, on Saturday, after a letter had been read from Mr Hume, concurring in the decision to withdraw their permission to erect a monument in the Regent circus to the memory of the Scottish reformers, Mr Potter proposed that the committee already formed be empowered to confer with Mr Hume, for the selection of any other site where the monument might be erected. The resolution, being seconded, was adopted.

REFUGE FOR THE DESTITUTE.—The annual meeting of the governors and supporters of this institution was held yesterday, at the London tavern, to receive the report of the managing committee, and to elect officers for the ensuing year. The chair was taken by Mr Edward Forster, F.R.S. The Rev. Mr Vance, secretary and chaplain, read the report, from which it appears that the funds of the society are not in so prosperous a state as at the close of the preceding year: but, notwithstanding that discouraging circumstance, the operations of this institution had not been in any way contracted. During the past year 175 young persons of both sexes had been admitted, having been released from various prisons. Of these, 94 had been discharged; the majority had shown symptoms of reformation. The weekly average number of inmates was 199, and there were at present 244 inmates remaining in the institution. The report having been received, the former committee and officers were re-elected, and the meeting broke up.

THE SUFFERERS BY THE LATE GALES.—On Wednesday there was a meeting of merchants and shipowners at the Hall of Commerce, Threadneedle street, to take into consideration the most advisable plan for the relief of the widows and children of the seamen who were lost by the wrecks of the Reliance and Conqueror. Sir John Pirie was called to the chair. It was ultimately resolved that subscriptions for the object in view should be immediately set on foot, and that a grand concert should be given for the same purpose.

We have been requested to caution tradesmen against executing any orders sent by letters, unless

THE NONCONFORMIST.

the writers are well known to them. An extensive system of hoaxing is in operation throughout London and the environs, which has already occasioned considerable annoyance and inconvenience. A clue has, however, been obtained to the principal offenders, and there is reason to believe that they will be exposed to the contempt and disgrace they deserve.—*Times*.

REVOLT OF THE BOYS AT GREENWICH SCHOOL.—A few days ago a very alarming disturbance broke out in the upper school of the Royal asylum, Greenwich. It appears that Lieutenant Rouse, R.N., one of the officers and directors of the gymnastics, had (it is said, without the sanction of the superior authorities) restricted the intercourse between the boys and their friends, which so irritated the pupils that they commenced a general row, smashing the windows with slates, rules, brickbats, and other missiles, and breaking upwards of a thousand panes of glass. Five of the ringleaders of the disturbance were placed in confinement. A strict investigation of the matter was entered into. There are nearly eight hundred boys, the sons of commission and warrant officers, in the upper school, and many of them are fifteen or sixteen years of age, who on a former occasion expelled the police by a volley of stones, &c. Thirteen have been expelled for their insubordinate conduct. On Sunday week there was another outbreak, which was, however, easily repressed. The damage done on the two occasions is estimated at £100.

EXTENSIVE CONFLAGRATION AT ROTHERHITHE.—Between four and five on Wednesday morning the utmost alarm was created in Rotherhithe, in consequence of a fire of a frightful character breaking out in the premises belonging to Messrs Garton and Co., turpentine distillers, at Quebec wharf, Rotherhithe, situate near the Globe stairs. The premises were of great magnitude, occupying an area of ground of several thousand feet, in the centre of which stood the distillery, a large building, about 200 feet in length and 80 in width; and when the flames were first discovered they were raging with great fury in one of the retort houses on the north side of this building. The firemen confined the fire to the distillery and two small out-buildings, which were entirely consumed before ten, together with their contents, consisting of several thousand gallons of turpentine, coppers, stills, and the usual materials in a distillery, nothing remaining except a few fire-blackened walls of the building. Nothing positive could be gleaned as to the origin of the fire. The amount of property destroyed, at a moderate calculation, must amount to two thousand pounds; and, unfortunately, the firm is only insured for a portion of the building. The stock in trade and utensils were uninsured.

FIRE AT LORD HILLSBOROUGH'S RESIDENCE.—On Saturday, at a quarter before six o'clock in the morning, a fire broke out in Lord Hillsborough's mansion, 45, Upper Grosvenor street, on the south side, and four doors from the south-west corner of Grosvenor square, the mansion at present occupied by Sir G. Larpent, Bart, who, with his family, had started but half an hour before for Bristol to visit a sick daughter. The fire was first discovered by police constable C 62, who immediately sprung his rattle, and commenced giving an alarm, but before he could successfully do so, a thick body of flames burst through the second floor windows; and so rapidly did the fire extend over the splendid building, that the exertions of those persons who first assembled to rescue any portion of the costly furniture, &c., were altogether unavailing. Several engines were soon on the spot, but owing to a want of water, some time elapsed before they could be put into operation. Shortly before seven o'clock the roof fell in, carrying the back floors with it, with a tremendous crash, but the second and drawing-room floors in front still remained. Soon afterwards, the branch of the King street brigade engine and that of the Crown street engine were carried up ladders into the balcony, and the former was conveyed by Brigadier James M'Lean into the drawing-room, as was also that of the latter by Brigadier Charles Goddard; but we regret to state, that about a quarter before 8 o'clock, a second crash was heard, and instantaneously the front floorings also gave way, and carried both men with them into the hall underneath. The two firemen were, with great difficulty, extricated; the former was dreadfully burned about the lower extremities, and was conveyed to St George's hospital, where he remains in a very precarious state. The latter was only slightly injured. Throughout Saturday, Upper Grosvenor street was crowded by spectators, and by the carriages of the nobility, anxious to view the ruins, which continued to emit volumes of smoke and flame, that required the occasional working of the engines to repress until late in the evening. About three o'clock on Saturday afternoon the firemen succeeded in extricating from the smouldering mass a massive iron chest, supposed to contain Sir George Larpent's plate, &c., which was removed, for security, to the residence of the Marquis of Downshire, in Hanover square. The Earl of Hillsborough, who, with his family, are at present sojourning at their splendid seat in Warwickshire, effected an insurance of the mansion itself in the Westminster fire office; but the contents are uninsured. The losses sustained by Sir George Larpent and Sir Charles Cockerell are stated to be exceedingly heavy, neither party being insured to the extent of one penny. The total loss will fall little short of from £10,000 to £11,000.

EXTRAORDINARY INSTANCE OF SUDDEN DEATH.—On Friday last a coroner's inquest was held before Mr Baker, in the board room of the town hall, Poplar, on the body of Mr Thomas Garratt, aged 66 years, one of the magistrates of the county and senior

churchwarden of the parish of All Saints, Poplar. The inquiry created an unusual degree of interest, arising from the extraordinary cause which led to the death of the deceased gentleman. The following is the evidence of the principal witness detailing the sad event:—

Mr John Roberts sworn.—I was present at a vestry meeting which was held on Thursday evening at the town hall, for the purpose of auditing the churchwarden's accounts, and other parochial business. The deceased attended in his official capacity. When he entered the meeting he appeared unwell, and exhibited great difficulty in breathing. On my speaking to him he said that he found walking affected him. The proceedings of the evening, immediately after they had commenced, assumed a very angry form, and a noisy and violent discussion ensued about some part of the accounts in which the deceased was interested. The proceedings were not of an angry character personally to the deceased, but he (the deceased) said these accounts ought not to have been brought forward without first consulting him. The deceased then laid his head on his hand. During this time the discussion assumed a more heated form, which called forth loud cries of "chair, chairman, order." These cries proceeded from every part of the hall. The deceased raised his head, when his countenance was suddenly observed to change, and he instantly fell back in his chair. Several members of the vestry came to the assistance of the deceased, amongst whom were some medical gentlemen, who administered what restoratives were at hand; but life appeared to be extinct, for the deceased never spoke, and, in the course of a few minutes after he was seized, breathed his last.

The coroner thought it would be unnecessary to prosecute the inquiry further. It was evident that the deceased had died from natural causes; at the same time it was one of the most painful and distressing instances of sudden death that had ever come under his knowledge. The jury returned a verdict of "Natural death." The deceased gentleman was a person of fortune, and highly respected in the parish. As a mark of respect his fellow parishioners caused the town hall and the workhouse to be closed.

PARRICIDE AT KENSAL GREEN.—An investigation, which occupied some hours, took place yesterday week, before Mr Wakley, at the Portobello tavern, Kensal New Town, on the body of Henry Richards, aged 44, a tailor by trade, but who also kept a small chandler's shop in the neighbourhood. Harriet Hickman examined: I am the wife of T. Hickman, police-constable of the D division, and live at Kensal New Town. About ten o'clock on the night of the 2nd inst, I went to deceased's shop to purchase some wood, and on entering heard a cry of "Murder." I saw the deceased lying with his head upon the counter, and his son holding him by the throat. I knew them both well. I called to the son, and he let his father go, who then ran towards the parlour door and took up a candlestick, which he threw at his son, but missed him. The deceased then called out, "Oh, oh, he has stabbed me." The son at the same time staggered towards the door, saying, "You have done the same by me." I assisted Mrs Richards to get deceased up to bed, and then saw the wound below his left shoulder. She fetched police constable 187 D, who went for the doctor. The deceased said his son came into the shop, saying he wanted half a pound of cheese, and that he replied, "You want no cheese at this time of night." His son rejoined that he would have it. He again told him he should not, when his son rushed upon him and stabbed him. I saw no knife. The son was much intoxicated, but the father not very much. A police constable here produced the knife, which the surgeon stated corresponded with the wound. It is a large cheese knife, and had spots of blood upon it. John Annan said he lived in East row, Kensal green. About 10 o'clock on the night of the 2nd inst, he saw deceased's son in the shop of Mr Wright, the butcher, and heard Mrs Wright ask him to get her a bit of cheese. He left for that purpose, and returned in about ten minutes, saying, "Oh, my father has stabbed me." He saw the wound in his left side, and the blood flowing from it. The accused said he had stabbed his father, but his father began it. The age of the son is 23 years. Never heard deceased's son threaten his father's life. Police constable D 204, said that deceased had several times come to his house for protection, with the blood streaming from his head from wounds which he said were inflicted by his son. The accused was not present at the inquest, being confined at Clerkenwell prison, the coroner it appears not having power to procure his attendance. The jury ultimately returned a verdict of "Manslaughter" against the son, and added that they could not on their consciences, or in justice to the accused, return a verdict of wilful murder against him, as he was not permitted to be present to hear the evidence.

IRELAND.

THE MATHEW TESTIMONIAL.—The great meeting for the purpose of erecting a testimonial in honour of Father Mathew's labours in the cause of temperance, was held at twelve o'clock on the 26th, in the theatre royal, Dublin. The attendance was exceedingly numerous and respectable, the boxes, pit, and gallery being inconveniently crowded. The Duke of Leinster took the chair, and the various resolutions were proposed and seconded by the Marquis of Headfort, ex-Judge Moore, the Marquis of Clanricard, the Right Hon. Thomas Wyse, Mr Smith O'Brian, M.P., Sir G. Hodson, the Marquis of Kildare, the Hon. Colonel Southwell, Mr O'Connell, and Mr Ross, of Rosstrevor, M.P. The leading resolutions were as follows:—

"Resolved, that the friends and admirers of the Rev. Mr Mathew will best evince their sense of the utility of his labours by a public and enduring testimonial, which, while serving to perpetuate the memory of the man, would not only conduce to the continued triumph of the

cause to which he has so usefully and energetically devoted himself, but also aim at confirming the people in those habits of temperance, and consequently of industry and order, which have already made such amazing progress in Ireland, and which, if rigidly adhered to, cannot fail to render the population happy, prosperous, and contented.

"Resolved, that a committee be nominated for the purpose of carrying the foregoing resolution into effect, and that such committee be instructed that the object can only be successfully achieved, and the wishes of this meeting satisfactorily carried out, by the proposed testimonial being entirely divested, both in tendency and design, of anything of a sectarian or political complexion."

REDUCTION OF RENTS.—The Irish papers announce some further reductions of rents by landlords. Mr Perkins, of Gortnor Abbey, near Bellina, has abated ten per cent; Sir Henry Carden, Bart, of Templemore, county of Tipperary, has remitted arrears of rent to a considerable amount. The Marquis of Conyngham has also abandoned a large amount of arrears on some large farms on his Clare estates. The *Limerick Reporter* thus describes the conduct of Lord Dunlavy:—"First, his land is let at a reasonable price. Secondly, he allows for liming, draining, planting, building; and, in fact, for any sort of permanent improvements. I know tenants who have been recently allowed, some a year's rent, others a year and a half, and so on. Thirdly, should the younger sons of any of his lordship's tenants be inclined to emigrate, he gives them liberal pecuniary aid. Some of his tenants, who were even in arrears, and unable to pay, have been lately forgiven, and declared anew."

Miscellaneous.

HORRID MURDER AT TIBBERTON, IN THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER.—On Friday night last, about eight o'clock, a man named Joseph Beavan, of the parish of Tibberton, having ill-used his wife (which he was in the habit of doing very frequently), drove her out of doors, at the same time threatening to kill her if she came in again. Just at this time her son by a former husband, a very fine young man, named James Wilks, about twenty-two years of age, happened to be passing that way. He saw his mother in the garden crying, and asked her what was the matter. She said, "Nothing more than usual." He then went into the house, and asked his stepfather how it was that his mother had no peace except when he was there. Beavan replied he would very soon give him peace, when other words ensued between them. Beavan then rushed on Wilks with a clasp knife, the blade of which was about five inches in length, and struck it into Wilks's left breast. He called out, "Oh, mother! oh, mother!" fell down, and expired in a few minutes. After he fell, Beavan knelt on him, and beat him with his fists. Beavan was immediately taken into custody, and conveyed to the county police station at Newent, where he remained until Monday the 23rd ult., when a coroner's inquest was held. A *post mortem* examination having been made, it was ascertained that the knife had penetrated the right ventricle of the heart. The jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against Joseph Beavan, who was then conveyed to the county gaol at Gloucester.—*Bristol Gazette*.

MURDEROUS CONSPIRACY TO TAKE A CONVICT SHIP.—Intelligence has just been received of an intended massacre of the officers and civilians on board the Eliza, government transport, which sailed from her Majesty's royal arsenal, Woolwich, a few months since, with convicts, for South Australia. It appears, as the vessel neared the Line, a murderous conspiracy was set on foot among some of the convicts. There were two hundred and sixty-seven convicts on board, among whom was a soldier, who had been transported for fourteen years for striking a serjeant. He privately sent a letter to the surgeon, informing him of the intended outbreak, on the morning of the 4th March; that the design was to put to death all the soldiers, officers, passengers, and such of the crew as offered the least resistance, and then to steer for the Brazilian coast. The man was prudently conveyed to the cabin, so as not to excite suspicion, where he was minutely examined by the surgeon and captain. He never varied in his statement, and so answered all the interrogatories put to him as left no doubt on the minds of his hearers of the intended horrors. Extra sentinels were immediately posted, and at three o'clock on the eventful morning the passengers and crew were summoned on deck, when their situation was explained to them, and all then, being well armed, were ordered to defend their lives to the last. The morning was calm and beauteous; not a whisper was heard on the mighty deep; when suddenly eight bells announced the hour when the murderous conflict was to take place. The prisoners were well organised, and armed with iron bolts and other weapons, stolen from the ship's stores. The surgeon was unwilling to sacrifice the life of the serjeant whose duty it was to open the convicts' gate at four o'clock—all was breathless anxiety, when the surgeon unhesitatingly himself advanced to the gate, desiring a couple of file of soldiers to advance and shoot the first prisoner who dared to pass except the one he named. They at once perceived their plot was discovered, retired to their berths, and threw the bolts and all offensive weapons out of the ports into the sea. Had the collision taken place, the loss of life would have been dreadful. The ringleader was a young man of the name of Dickenson, who had been an apothecary's assistant in Thavies inn, Holborn. He was a desperate opium eater. He leaped overboard immediately after the discovery, and notwithstanding every exertion to save him, he was drowned. Every precaution was adopted for the security of the convicts, and they were handed over to the civil power on arrival.

DESTRUCTION OF A VESSEL BY EXPLOSION.—The New Times, a vessel belonging to Messrs Halton and Co., of Watling street, London, was totally destroyed by an explosion of gunpowder, off Badaguy, on the coast of Africa, upon the 18th of October last, and every soul on board is supposed to have perished. For two hours after the accident the sea was covered with the tattered remnants of cloth, puncheon packs, butt ends of muskets, &c.; but there being no canoes, nothing was saved. The New Times was engaged in the African trade, and left London towards the end of June, 1842, under the Command of Captain Alexander Rowe. From the fact of her being at anchor off the coast, and not engaged in disembarking her cargo at the period of the explosion, considerable mystery exists as to the cause of the accident. It is well known that gunpowder forms an important article of trade with all ships on the African coast, but it is invariably stowed away in a portion of the vessel termed the magazine, and separated by a strong partition from the rest of the cargo. No light is ever taken near the magazine, and it is feared that a quarrel must have originated among the crew, and thus caused the melancholy result. Captain Rowe was a man of considerable experience, but the present was his first voyage in the New Times. She was built for the African trade, and is stated to be underwritten at Lloyd's though not to the full amount of her loss.

PLACES OF AMUSEMENT OPEN GRATIS TO THE PUBLIC.—Parade of foot guards, with military music, at St. James's palace daily at a quarter before eleven a.m.; British museum, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from ten to four; National gallery, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from ten to five; Society of Arts, every day except Wednesday; East India House museum, every Saturday from eleven to three; St. Paul's, every day from nine to ten, and from three to four; Westminster abbey, ditto and ditto; Sir J. Soane's museum, every Tuesday and Friday till July; Hampton Court palace, every day except Saturday and Sunday before two; Woolwich model and rocket rooms, daily; Dulwich gallery, every day except Friday—tickets to be had (gratis) from the principal print-sellers in London; Windsor Castle state rooms, daily, excepting Friday.

THE STATISTICS OF THE PARISIAN DAILY PRESS.—Considering the great influence which the French press exercises upon its readers, it may be perhaps instructive to look into the circulation of such of the papers as appear in Paris. The list, which is compiled from the report which is made at the end of every month to the Minister of the Interior, gives the following official statistic data for the month of November last:

	Number.
<i>Charivari</i> (morning), radical opposition	2258
<i>Commerce</i> (morning), dynastic violent ditto	6968
<i>Constitutionnel</i> (morning), organ of M. Thiers	3225
<i>Corsaire</i> (morning), radical opposition	606
<i>Courrier Francais</i> (morning), organ of Odilon Barrot	3226
<i>Débats</i> (morning), organ of the court	8871
<i>Droit</i> (morning), judicial paper	904
<i>Echo Francais</i> (morning), legitimatist complexion	2151
<i>Estafette</i> (morning), without political bias	5323
<i>France</i> (morning), moderate legitimatist	1613
<i>Galigiani's Messenger</i> (morning), English, without political bias	2500
<i>Gazette de France</i> (evening), organ of the Abbé Genoude, revolutionary legitimatist	4355
<i>Gazette des Tribunaux</i> (morning), judicial paper	3442
<i>Globe</i> (morning), property of the cabinet	1890
<i>Legislature</i> (morning), vibrates between Count Molé and the opposition	1890
<i>Moniteur Universel</i> (morning), official organ	1935
<i>Messager</i> (evening), official organ and property of the cabinet	968
<i>Moniteur Parisien</i> (evening), half official organ of the government	1613
<i>National</i> (morning), radical	1581
<i>Patrie</i> (morning), for some months past the property of the Abbé Genoude	1703
<i>Presse</i> (morning), organ of the progressive conservative	18,363
<i>Quotidienne</i> (morning), retrograde legitimatist	2419
<i>Siecle</i> (morning), moderate opposition	38,729
<i>Union Catholique</i> (morning), organ of the Romish party	1984
<i>Univers Religieux</i> (morning), organ of the French church	1154
Subscribers.	
The radical opposition affords	7485
The legitimatist party	10,838
The conservative party	33,906
The moderate opposition	53,641

Of all these papers it will appear that the *Siecle* has the greatest number of subscribers. Afterwards follows the *Presse*, with 18,363 subscribers. The difference between the circulation of the *Presse* and the *Siecle* would seem to be principally owing to the fact, that the *Siecle* costs only 40f. per annum, whilst the subscription to the *Presse*, on the contrary, amounts to 48f. As regards the spirit and tendency of the various papers, it results that—

Subscribers.

The radical opposition affords

The legitimatist party

The conservative party

The moderate opposition

—Times.

SINGULAR CIRCUMSTANCE.—The Duke of Wellington and Napoleon Buonaparte, by a singular freak of fortune, were both linked by marriage with Robert Paterson, the "Old Mortality" of Sir Walter Scott. The only occupation of this old man (observes the *Inverness Courier*) was wandering about the country, repairing the tombstones of the covenanters, traveling from one churchyard to another, mounted on his old white pony, till he was found dead one day by the roadside. His family experienced a singular variety of fortune. One of his sons went to America, and settled at Baltimore, where he made a large fortune. He had a son who

married an American lady; and the latter, outliving her husband, became Marchioness of Wellesley. His daughter was married to Jerome Buonaparte, and after her separation from him, wedded Monsieur Serruer, the French consul at Baltimore. What would "Old Mortality" have said, as he bore among the neglected grave-stones in Scotland, had he foreseen that the widow of his grandson was to become an English marchioness, sister-in-law of the Duke of Wellington, and his grand-daughter queen of Westphalia, and sister-in-law of Napoleon! [The Marchioness of Wellesley was Miss Marianne Caton, daughter of Mr Richard Caton, of Maryland.]

VARIETIES.

An oyster bed, two leagues in length, a league wide, and 15 or 16 feet thick, has been discovered on the coast of the department of the Côtes-du-Nord. It is said to lie between the island of Thomé and the small town of Penvenen.

From Donegal we learn that, notwithstanding the recent severity of the weather, the take of herrings progresses, and that fish of a very superior quality is still abundant along the coast. An equally favourable report is derived from the Galway coast.

The *Banner of Ulster* states that the amount subscribed at the presbyterian bi-centenary meetings already exceeds 6,000*l.* On Monday evening the Dublin subscription amounted to 1,275*l.*, of which Mary's abbey congregation alone furnished nearly 900*l.*

Mr Atkinson, rope manufacturer, of Preston, has received an order from the Admiralty to manufacture 75,000 fathoms, or 85 miles 400 yards, of line for Captain Belcher, of the Samarang, going on an exploring expedition.

A JURYMAN'S OBJECTION.—“There'll be murder before this trial's over, that's all,” said the juryman, taking his seat with great deliberation. “I've left nobody at home but an errand boy in my shop. He is a very nice boy, but he is not much acquainted with drugs; and I know that the prevailing impression on his mind is, that Epsom salts means oxalic acid, and syrup of senna, laudanum. That's all, my lord,” and with this the chemist composed himself into a comfortable attitude, and prepared for the worst.—*Dickens*.

It is not true that Lord Ellenborough has been pleased to appoint the rector of the parish of *Somnauth-within-the-gates* to be his domestic chaplain.

A cylinder of water may be converted into ice by placing it in 5lbs. of sulphate of soda, and 4lbs. of sulphuric acid, at 36 deg., well mixed. The ice is extracted for use by putting the cylinder in hot water.

FIRE EXTINGUISHED.—The mephitic vapour produced by throwing a handful of flower of sulphur on the burning coals, where the chimney is on fire, will immediately extinguish the flames, on the same principle as it would suffocate any living creature.

The Hanse towns have lately been sending considerable quantities of woolen goods to China; and, scarcely a week ago, a cargo of cloth was shipped from Bremen to Singapore. Many German merchants contemplate founding establishments in China.

It is stated on authority, that the militia for the county of Lancaster will be raised early in the ensuing Spring; that a ballot will take place, after which they will be regularly embodied, and called out for twenty-eight days' training and exercise. Preparations are already making to carry this object into effect.

The first stone of the Conservative club, in St. James's street, will be laid in a few days. It will be one of the most extensive buildings in the metropolis.

At one of the late appeals in this county against the property and income tax, a farmer being asked on what ground he appealed, replied with great simplicity, “On seventeen acres.”—*Brighton Gazette*.

The law officers of the crown have given an opinion that magistrates at petty sessions have not power to commit for contempt parties misconducting themselves in court.

It is calculated that out of the whole population of London and the suburbs, about 40,000 persons subsist by thieving—to say nothing of the shopkeepers!

The expense by the overland route to India is generally estimated at £134; viz., £4 from London to Paris; £10 from Paris to Marseilles; £28 from Marseilles to Alexandria; and £12 from Alexandria to Suez, whence the fare in the steamers to Bombay is £80.

There are in the United States, according to the census, one hundred and thirty-eight daily papers, eleven hundred and forty-one weekly papers, and one hundred and twenty-five semi-weekly. The number of periodicals is two hundred and twenty-seven.

Owing to the great reduction which has taken place in the price of butcher's meat, private soldiers are now enabled to mess themselves at a reduction in the expense of from 20 to 25 per cent. The difference in the price of meat and bread now, as compared with what it was in January, 1842, affords each private an extra shilling a week to spend upon himself.

PHILOSOPHY OF HEAT.—“Well, my little fellow,” said a certain principal to a sucking philosopher, whose mamma had been teasing the learned knight to test the astonishing abilities of her boy, “what are the properties of heat?” “The chief property of heat is, that it expands bodies, while cold contracts them.” “Very good, indeed; can you give me a familiar example?” “Yes, sir; in summer, when it is hot, the day is long; while in winter, when it is cold, it becomes very short.” The learned knight stopped his examination, and was lost in amazement that so familiar an instance should have so long escaped his own observation.

Literature.

Exercises, Political and Others. By Lieut. Col. T. PERONNET THOMPSON. 6 vols. London: Effingham Wilson, Royal Exchange. 1842.

THAT human society should be regulated by human governments, we believe to be a providential law as imperative as that which ordains that man “by the sweat of his brow shall eat bread.” The law, too, like every other originating in the same source, is merciful. It is stamped with the broad seal of benevolence. It is remedial in its very nature—a provision designed to mitigate the primeval curse. Government therefore, as such, is to be regarded with reverence—to be submitted to with cheerfulness—to be supported with alacrity and zeal. The essential principle which vests rulers with authority is not to be gainsay— and reason and scripture concur in demanding from all men a suitable homage to “the powers that be.”

The outward form, however, in which the principle may clothe itself—the attempts made by men to actualise the idea—the institutions which human wisdom or human folly may erect as a shrine for this divinity, possess no such claim upon us. As the universal duty of acknowledging divine supremacy does not involve, but repudiates, superstitious devotion to any and every idol which corrupt fancy pleases to set up; so, true reverence for the authority of human government carries with it no necessity for senseless attachment to any form of it which ambition, craft, avarice, cruelty, or lust of power may devise. That form may be a fraud—a wholesale falsehood—a cloak behind which the vilest passions of the heart move on to the attainment of their purposes. The clergy, misinterpreting Christianity, exhort us to bow down to it, whatever it be—God, Jupiter, Baal, or Beelzebub. We need scarcely say that this is a grand mistake. No man is required to revere what is not venerable, or is put under obligation by the Author of his being, to esteem what is not, in its own nature, estimable. Submission to worthless forms of government, may indeed be given “for the Lord's sake,” but this is not due, in any sense, to themselves. There are motives which prompt obedience even to despotism—but those motives spring not out of any respect due to this “ordinance of man.”

That superstitious awe for whatever is—for whatever in this world takes the name and wears the badge of civil authority, recommended by a state priesthood, and believed by many to be the genuine offspring of piety, is alien from the whole spirit of the Christian revelation. The maxim into which it settles is twin brother of that other, not yet hunted out of the domains of common sense—“Ignorance is the mother of devotion.” Under the blinding influence of this latter child of priestly wisdom, to what a long night was Europe condemned? The homage due to Christianity was confounded with that demanded by “the church,” a grotesque and hideous misrepresentation of it. To inquire was held to be to doubt—to doubt, to disbelieve—and to disbelief attached the heaviest penalties temporal and eternal. Happily, there were, in former days, ecclesiastical Thompsons—men gifted with intuitive and eagle-eyed perception to detect, and with unswerving and courageous honesty to expose, the most specious lie—furnished with an organ to scent a fallacy, however deep beneath the surface, and moved by an instinctive propensity to scratch it up, and drag it forth to light, at whatever expense of labour or self-sacrifice. The result of their efforts is the general establishment of the right of private judgment—and we, to this day, owe whatever of ecclesiastical freedom we possess, to their intelligence, honesty, and zeal.

Colonel Thompson is doing that in respect to forms and practices of civil governments which these men accomplished in reference to “the church,” and in their success he may read the prognostication of his own. His mind seems to be pervaded with a most inveterate antipathy to falsehood. Lie where it will he is sure to detect, and as sure to pursue it. It is most amusing to watch him driving a fallacy from its kennel. He starts with a keenness and a zest, all his own, which show him to be following the bent of his nature, and which give sure promise of success. And then to mark the ease, rapidity, and (if we may use the word) knowledginess, with which he makes, with unerring precision, for its lair, and having once roused it, keeps upon its trail, espies all its hiding-places, follows it into every hole, burrows, takes water, turns short, leaps, climbs, until the poor thing is driven out into the open field, where he seizes it in triumph and mauls it to death—it is an intellectual treat of the highest order. These “Exercises” of his are just so many fallacy-hunts—various as are their subjects—pursued in style adapted to the end in view—but all displaying the rich and raucy characteristics of his mind. Indeed, the table of contents to these volumes is scarcely less surprising than the quality of them. The learned and accomplished soldier seems thoroughly at home everywhere. “The world is his oyster, and with his (pen) he opens it.”

The fairest, and by far the most interesting,

THE NONCONFORMIST.

mode of criticising Colonel Thompson is to quote from him. We shall, therefore, make no apology for introducing the following extracts. And first, for the all-engrossing topic of free trade:

"The monkeys in Exeter change used to be confined in a row of narrow cages, each of which had a pan in the centre of its front for the tenant's food. When all the monkeys were supplied with their messes, it was observable that scarcely any one of them ate of his own pan. Each thrust his arm through the bars, and robbed his right or left hand neighbour. Half what was so seized was spilt and lost in the conveyance; and while one monkey was so unprofitably engaged in plundering, his own pan was exposed to similar depredation. The mingled knavery and absurdity was shockingly human."—*Examiner*.

"Take now the case which the opponents of free trade would put forward as most favourable to their cause; and see if it amounts to anything but this monkey policy in the end. Assume, for instance, the case of the glove maker. Gloves may be had, it shall be supposed, from a French maker for the value of two shillings a pair. An Englishman stands up and says, that he can make gloves of the same kind for three shillings; and therefore, for the sake of encouraging British commerce, it is expedient to pass a law to prohibit the introduction of French gloves at two shillings, in order that those who choose to wear gloves may be obliged to take them from the Englishman at three."

"Never mind what quantity of flourishes the supporters of the legerdemain may make to cover the performance. Let it be utterly indifferent to you, what names, sacred or profane, they invoke to give gravity to their proceedings. If they are poetical, think of the Rule of Three. If they quote scripture, take care of your pockets. Your money, which is your life, is at stake; therefore keep a cool head and a clear eye. The army of thimble men from Doncaster is upon you; and there is no yeomanry at hand to clear the course. Trust no man that looks like a conjurer; be upon your guard also against those that do not. Beware of the quack doctors, who make long speeches; they will 'ravish you if they get you into their net.' Say like Mr Sadler, that 'all men are liars'; and you will not be very far from being right. Believe nobody, nothing—except that two and two make four. If an angel or an archbishop preach anything contrary to this, give them no heed. If judges on the bench contradict it, tell them they sit there to make law and not arithmetic. You have money; and therefore everybody is in a plot against you. There is something in your pockets; and you will be beset right and left, till they are cleaned out."

"When you buy a pair of French gloves, it is clear that they are paid for in something. You have the substantial evidence that you did not get them for nothing; and so has everybody else. They must have been paid for either with goods of English produce, or with goods of some kind (gold and silver included) which have been bought from abroad with goods of English produce, or with bills which are only an order for payment in one of the other ways a few days hence instead of to-day. Unless an Englishman has the art of getting anything for nothing, in one or other of these ways must they infallibly have been paid for. Here, then, are at all events two shillings accounted for out of the three; which are as fairly expended for the benefit of British producers and manufacturers of some kind, as they would be if the gloves were bought from a British glove maker at the same price. They are paid for to the Frenchman in, it may be, Sheffield goods. But if the glove maker procures a law that gloves shall not be bought from France, it is plain that Sheffield goods must stop. The glove maker may gain employment and trade to the amount of two shillings; but it is equally plain that the Sheffield man must lose it."

"So much for the part which consists of the two shillings. Next for the part which consists of the other one. And this, says the glove maker, is to be a clear gain to British commerce, and it is a horrible wrong if it is deprived of it. Now, mark the juggle; look sharply to the shuffling of the balls. If the wearer of gloves is to be forced to expend a shilling more upon the glove maker, he must expend a shilling less upon somebody else. It may be that he would not have expended it at Sheffield, but at Birmingham; or that it would have been divided among fifty other places which it is impossible to assign by name. But still it is as clear as ever, that the shilling which it is proposed to make him expend *nolens volens* upon the glove maker, must be taken from the custom of some other British manufacturers somehow and somewhere. There is no deception arising from the payments being made in money; if instead of shillings they were made with pecks of wheat, it would be just as true that the third peck which the glove maker demands a law to put into his own pot, must be taken from the pudding of some British manufacturer, to whom it would otherwise have gone. Sift this; turn it over; see if it be true or not. Do not allow yourself to be tamely taken in, because the men who try to do it wear good clothes. Either it is true or it is not. If it is not true, let somebody show where it is false. Till then, take leave to account it correct."—pp. 191–193.

The following is on the subject of "religious disabilities":

"And this leads to the broad statement of the proposition—that men do not form civil societies, for the maintenance of any form of religious opinions, but for purposes common to all and antecedent to all; and that consequently all attempts to found any civil superiority or inferiority upon religious belief, are simply attempts to defraud and rob; and are to be resisted, like other attempts at fraud and robbery, by the good sense of the community informing them, that the injury is not done to the sufferer only, but to the whole. Why is not X. Y. Z. knocked down and robbed at Charing cross—when it is palpable upon inspection—when it is clear beyond all possibility of helping it by demonstration—that no other human being can by any the remotest possibility, henceforth or at any imaginable period, be X. Y. Z.? Is it clearer or so clear, that the member for the university of Oxford will never be a Jew? Or is it practicable to imagine a more perfect exemption from all chance of being made to exchange personalities with the sufferer? Why then does the sovereign people, in the exercise of its popular good will and pleasure, determine that X. Y. Z. shall not be knocked down and robbed at Charing cross—even though to wearing an unfashionable garment, he should add the crime of selling oranges, and be strongly suspected of having lost a joint of his little finger, though

he keeps it carefully invested in his small clothes? Why, in the name of common sense, but because every lout—that is not a thief—every way-faring man—that is not a picker up of unconsidered trifles by nature and by practice—knows that if X. Y. Z. comes to any harm, there is not a combination of letters in the alphabet that is not likely to have its turn. Equality upon such points, is the first principle of popular justice. It is '*ne quis fur*', without any exception in favour of religious creeds; and if the people's betters do not think so too, it is only because their betters are under circumstances of peculiar difficulty and temptation, which the people should make allowances for, when the question is of allowing them to have their own way. But as long as there is any disposition to thrust forward some particular set of individuals, as those who may properly be cut off from common right—as long as there has not been obtained a full, total, and all-comprehensive assurance, that no case of exception, on any pretence or for any reason, does or can exist—just so long is every man, who has the sense to see a danger before it strikes against his nose, bound to make a common cause with the forlorn hope of the persecuted, whoever they may be. If it is safe to doubt the divine procession of bishops—if a man who hesitates upon that point can lie quietly in bed without being roused by a dragoon—it is only because a certain progress has been made in declaring that religious opinion in general shall be free; and in exact proportion to that progress, is the safety of the slumbering misbeliever in the lower degree. If he is safe at all, it is only because somebody has gone and bivouacked beyond him. It matters not what difference of garb, or food, or faith, may separate the clans that meet for the settling of the great contest. It matters not how little one ally may love another *quoad* his own private use and edification. But there is a great fight to fight; and the man must be a fool or an idiot, who will quarrel with the cut of his neighbour's beard, when the question is whether men's thoughts shall be safe, or whether society shall be one great border fray, where he shall eat whom strength and a long sword enable to eat for himself. A government that has been foolish enough to decline doing justice to a portion of its subjects because they were few, must be shown that the interested are not few. It is not the question of the twenty-seven thousand, but of the fourteen millions, and in a less especial manner of the whole twenty-two millions besides. A compact must be made against such a principle, like what exists against other forms of evil; and if John Nokes is injured, proceedings must lie, not in the name of John Nokes, but of the commonwealth."—pp. 274, 275.

Not less to our taste is this, on "democracy." Some of our religious men may profit by it:—

"Democracy means the community's governing through its representatives for its own benefit, instead of the benefit of somebody else. All intimations that somebody else knows better what is for your good, are frauds when applied to a nation so far advanced in intelligence and habits of self-management as Great Britain. Give us the evidence, show us the institution, the association, in which the interest of the public was well attended to, except in proportion as the public had virtually the means of attending to it themselves? Is there any instance, any chance, of the affairs of a company being promoted by the interference of four or five hundred born directors? Would there be any prudence in such a combination long resisting the introduction of popular selection, after the popular attention had been concentrated on their performances?"—p. 191.

We could go on extracting quotations to the end of the present number and through the whole of our next. But we must forbear. We do not pretend to receive *all* Colonel Thompson's views as correct, nor all his opinions as orthodox. His "Exercises," however, contain an immense magazine of truth—and will be read and studied with profit by all classes. Honour to the head and to the heart of the man who gave them to the world! His fellow-countrymen, especially, owe him a heavy debt of gratitude.

Fisher's Colonial Magazine and Commercial-Maritime Journal for January. Fisher, Son, and Co., Newgate street.

THERE is, perhaps, no subject of political importance on which the British public are so generally ignorant or misinformed as on the actual condition and peculiarities of our colonial dependencies. It is a topic destitute of interest to the great bulk of the people, unless some striking event, as in the case of the late crisis in Canada, specially attract the attention or call forth the sympathies of the mother country. We are glad, therefore, to meet with so able and temperate an advocate of the claims of our colonial empire as the work now before us. A great deal of light is thrown upon the resources of our colonies, and the domestic habits of the foreign subjects of Great Britain, which will serve to correct many of those erroneous impressions so long, from a want of proper information, entertained on this important subject at home. The contents of the present number of the *Colonial Magazine* are varied and interesting, and contain a large amount of valuable statistical information. We highly approve of the spirit and tone of an able article on "Machinery and Engineering for the Colonies." The following observations are not the less sound because almost every agricultural state is acting in violation of them:—

"There are two opposite errors, which are equally inimical to sound national progress: the first is, to covet manufactures before the time. While yet the agricultural resources of a territory are not nearly made the most of, and the population may yet find abundant employment on the land, and while, in consequence, manufactured articles may be procured, from thickly peopled countries, in exchange for the products of a much smaller amount of labour bestowed on the land, than would be required for the fabrication of the goods themselves, it is

obviously an unwise and wasteful course to stimulate artificially the extension of manufactures. This is the common error of countries which have made some advance, and are envious of the wealth which seems to flow from extensive systems of artificial labour; they forget the difference of the circumstances, and are unwilling, even though to advantage, to wait their own time. Manufactures will come of themselves, as soon as they can safely fall into the general course of the national advance.

The other error is that of newly-settled colonies. Land lies free and open all about them; sure of profit and easy does it seem, to occupy as widely and as far off as may be pleased. Enterprise pushes into the wilds, and there the lonely colonist, while he increases his flocks and herds, knows little of the impressions the civilised world receives. The fact is overlooked, that it is not mere land which constitutes the means of profitable production, nor mere rough abundance, wealth. A market is just as needful, as is land, or woods, or cattle; a road to that market is a necessary part of the means of production, as to the producer's standing with the consumer; and a knowledge of the circumstances affecting that market is an indispensable guide to vigorous and prudent action."

The Fall of Man—The Atonement—Divine Influence. Three Lectures recently delivered in Holloway chapel. By A. J. MORRIS. Published by request. London: Jackson and Walford.

It is no part of our plan to commit ourselves to the discussion of any subjects, however interesting or momentous, which come within the range of controversial theology. But when any treatise, large or small, in the form of a huge folio (now a *rara avis in terris*), or of a light-winged pamphlet, condescends to deal with the emphatically *veraxæ questiones* of theology in a generally fair and honourable spirit, we have no more objection to notice it, as largely as our limits will allow, than we have to glance at any other description of literary labour, the object and tendency of which is human improvement.

The lectures before us possess the merit above referred to; and manifest, in connexion with it, considerable acuteness and comprehensiveness of view. Their author seems comparatively free from the slavish fetters of authoritative system, and on that account is much more likely to carry with him the convictions of his readers; though, should he fail of that, they will, at least, conclude that he is a candid, an able, and an honest man. The following extracts will indicate the general quality of these productions. In Lecture I., p. 22, speaking of the consequences of the fall, the author says, "We have no sympathy with those who can pour out their light and irreverend dogmas as if their hearts were not oppressed, or even as if they exulted over the plight of poor humanity." In Lecture II., p. 36, he states a principle which he applies to a large class of plain passages of scripture relating to sacrifices, but which is susceptible of a far wider application. "And while the quotations are being made, remember that we should choose the meaning which is most *natural and obvious*, and what (which) would be most natural and obvious to those to whom the expressions were first addressed." And, in Lecture III., p. 62, he guards his hearers against the supposition that any impulses not in accordance with the known will of God can properly be considered as divine. "We must test all our feelings by the word of God, for they do not demonstrate their own origin. The history of religion is filled with illustrations and confirmations of the truth of this remark. Impulses of every moral character, and every degree of absurdity, have been honestly supposed to come from God by those who have displayed them; and regarding the strength, and not quality of their emotions, they have done, from the presumed influence of the spirit, what has violated his plainest laws."

There are, indeed, a few things in these lectures which we could wish had been differently put. On p. 49, the author appears somewhat too closely to identify faith in his view of the atonement with faith in Christ. On p. 15, he uses the term "sovereignty" where he seems to mean *supremacy*; and on p. 23, he employs the same word where *equity* would probably be more appropriate. And throughout the lectures there are occasional oddnesses of phraseology which, did he not so broadly impress the reader with the assurance of his good sense and incapacity for trifling, might be mistaken for merely whimsical peculiarities.

The Family Choir; or, Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs, for Social Worship. Arranged for Four Voices, and the Pianoforte or Organ. Nos 1, 2, and 3. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., London.

We were much pleased with the first examination of this little work. It appeared to us most convenient, both in size and character, for family use. A still greater advantage which it exhibits is the arrangement of the music on one page, and a copious selection of hymns on the other; thus obviating a very common inconvenience, and rendering the work more complete. We are free to confess, however, that the high expectation we had formed of the character of the music, from the galaxy of illustrious composers whose names adorn the title page, were scarcely realised on a closer acquaintance. The selection of tunes displays great variety, but we miss much of that fulness of harmony so especially desirable in sacred psalmody. There is scarcely enough of the substance of music in many of them to accord with the sentiments which they are intended to embody. From the improvement in this respect exhibited by each part over the preceding, we should, however, hope that the succeeding parts will supply this deficiency. Should this be the case, the work will, in our opinion, form one of the best and most appropriate promoters of family enjoyment that have lately issued from the press.

Religious Intelligence.

CONGREGATIONAL SOIREE IN LEITH.—On Tuesday evening, the Kirkgate United Associate congregation held their annual soiree in their place of worship: the Rev. William Marshall, their pastor, in the chair. There were between seven and eight hundred persons present. The tea and coffee having been disposed of, the meeting was addressed, first, by the Rev. Francis Muir, Leith, on "the bonds of Christian unity;" and afterwards by the Rev. Joseph

Brown, Dalkeith, on "the present state of home and foreign missions." The Rev. Dr Marshall then made a long and eloquent speech on the position of the church of Scotland. We have only room for an extract or two, though the whole speech is well worth perusal, as maintaining that high tone of religious independence which rarely, in our days, finds audible expression on this side the Tweed.

The first remark I shall venture to throw out is, that it is a subject of serious importance; and this must be admitted, whatever view we take of it—that is, whatever motives we ascribe to the leaders of what is called the non-intrusion party. Suppose, in the first place, that they are all good and conscientious men—all faithful ministers of Christ, supremely devoted to his service, and zealous for his honour and the interest of his kingdom. Suppose this, and how solemn, how very solemn, is the crisis at which we have arrived! With what momentous consequences is it fraught! To think of such a multitude of worthy men, the *elite* of the church of Scotland, on the eve of throwing up their charges, without knowing how or where their future ministry is to be exercised, or whether they will be allowed to exercise it at all. This, you will allow, is rather an appalling thought. But let us suppose, on the other hand—what I beg you to remember I am far from asserting—let us suppose that there are among them mixture of rather selfish, ambitious men—men who have more consideration for their own glory than the glory of Christ—men who are more intent on making to themselves a kingdom than on extending the kingdom which he has set up—men who have received a sprinkling of a certain unction much run after among ecclesiastics, and which rested upon the heads of Gregory VII. and Innocent III.—men who are aiming to wreath around the necks of the community a yoke which our ancestors bore not, and which we their sons, degenerate though we be, can never consent to bear. On this supposition the crisis must be a portentous one, involving interests of the greatest magnitude, and affecting the character, not of this country alone, but of the age in which we live; and calling upon all men—upon every man who has a spark of patriotism or religion—upon every man who has any regard for liberty, religious or civil—calling upon all men, and ourselves among the rest, to be active and awake. There is a third supposition, which perhaps comes as near the truth as any of the others; and that is, that the body of men of whom I speak are of somewhat mixed description, comprehending not one class, but various classes—some good, others less good—some well-meaning, conscientious men, who are influenced by what they conceive to be a sense of duty; and others, like ordinary mortals, imbued with a portion of *esprit de corps*, standing up for the honour of Mother Church, and for the glory of their clerical order; and others, again, perhaps the most numerous class of all, who are influenced by example—who are carried along by the force of the current into which they have thoughtlessly thrown themselves, and who are induced to do as their brethren do with whom they have been accustomed to act in other matters.

After entering more largely into the question, the Rev. Dr concludes some practical suggestions—

I come now to observe that the present state of the Scottish establishment holds out great encouragement to dissenters, particularly voluntaries, the only dissenters worthy of the name. It is a practical proof of what they can do, it is a practical proof of the power of their doctrine, and I confess myself astonished when I think of it. The result has far surpassed my expectations. Little did we think, when we began this agitation, that it would so soon be crowned with signal success; that the grain of mustard seed which we cast into the earth would have sprung up so rapidly into a tree; that the little leaven which we cast into the mass, would have given promise in so short a space of leavening the whole lump. Let us thank God, and take courage. Let us gird our loins for other and more formidable undertakings; for there are yet far more formidable undertakings before us. Suppose the Scottish establishment were leveled with the dust to-morrow, we must remember that it is only an outwork to the English one—that the Puseyite, the semi-popish, the more than semi-popish church, is the great stronghold of the power of an establishment—that its bulwarks are really formidable in aspect, and apparently as immovable as the everlasting hills. But let us not think of its strength, or the hold which it has got of the government and the country. There is nothing too powerful for truth. Great is truth, and it shall prevail. Let us remember that the walls of Jericho fell before the blowing of a ram's horn, and that the host of the Midianites were routed when Gideon and his men only broke their pitchers and displayed their lamps. Let us, then, sound the appeal to our brethren in the south—let us rattle in their ears as the host of Gideon did, and especially let us show our lamps and illuminate them—a thing they greatly need (Great applause).

Mr William Alexander, treasurer to the congregation, in the name of that body, presented Mr Marshall with a purse of sovereigns, in testimony of their respect for his character, both as their pastor and as a man. The meeting was then addressed in succession by the Rev. Dr Macfarlan, Glasgow, on "The union of Christian effort;" the Rev. Andrew Thompson, of Broughton street church, Edinburgh, on "Libraries;" the Rev. Alexander Lawrie, East Calder, on "The cultivation of sacred music by congregations;" and by the Rev. John Smart, Leith, on "Purity of Church Discipline."

MR MOFFAT'S DEPARTURE.—At a quarter past ten o'clock this morning, Mr. and Mrs. Moffat, with their missionary associates, left London Bridge wharf on board the Royal Sovereign steamer, specially engaged for the purpose of conveying the missionaries to the Fortitude, lying off Gravesend, as well as many of their friends who were desirous of accompanying them to the vessel. As early as nine o'clock many persons had assembled on the wharf, anxious to take a last look at the intrepid and devoted African missionary. At ten o'clock hundreds of persons had assembled, and crowded every avenue leading to the steamer. At this moment Mr Moffat made his appearance, when he was surrounded by the crowd, and made his way on board with great difficulty. Among others who pressed around him, we observed a lady of title, who anxiously addressed Mr Moffat, asking him if he did not recollect traveling with her to Birmingham, and stating "that she had brought her daughter with her to receive his blessing, and that unless she could bid him adieu, she should break her heart." On board the steamer we observed many of the friends of missions, and among others the Rev. Drs Campbell and Jenkyn; the Rev. Messrs Binney, Robinson, Gilbert, &c. As soon as the steamer began to move from the wharf, Mr Moffat mounted the paddle-box, and, taking off his hat, attempted to cheer, which was but faintly responded to—the people being too much depressed to give a hearty cheer. —*Patriot of Monday.*

DEPARTURE OF BAPTIST MISSIONARIES FOR JAMAICA.—On Wednesday the 25th of January, the Rev. J. Tinson, with his wife and daughter, and the Rev. W. Nash and Mrs Nash, embarked at Gravesend, in the Dale Park, for Jamaica. A large party from London and its neighbourhood accompanied them down the river to the ship. Before the mis-

sionaries went on board, they and their friends united in fervent prayer and praise, in a spacious room at one of the hotels in Gravesend. It was a season of deep solemnity, and one in which the bonds of Christian love were felt to unite more closely the hearts of those who were separating, to see each other in the flesh no more. The next morning, the Rev. T. Hands and Mrs Hands, Mr and Mrs Gould, and Mr and Mrs Gay, sailed from Blackwall, in the Hindoo, for the same island. They were expected at Gravesend the morning before, but the ship was detained a day beyond her time, and thus they were hindered from uniting with their brethren in those parting exercises of devotion, in which, however, they were affectionately remembered. The Rev. J. Tinson is returning to Jamaica, to preside over the Theological institution for training native agents. The Rev. Messrs Nash and Hands will take charge of churches. The former was recently the beloved and respected pastor at Drayton; and the latter, from the Baptist college in Bristol, was ordained for missionary service at Birmingham, on the 29th of December last. Messrs Gould and Gay will be engaged principally as schoolmasters.

MANCHESTER.—United recognition services were held at George street and York street Baptist chapels on Wednesday the 11th inst., on the settlement of the Rev. C. Thompson, late of Swansea, with the former, and the Rev. Joseph Davis, late of Church street, Blackfriars road, London, with the latter. There was a special prayer meeting at half-past ten o'clock in George street chapel. At half-past two o'clock the service was commenced in the same place by the Rev. F. Tucker, of Union chapel, Manchester, who read and prayed, and an introductory discourse was delivered by the Rev. J. E. Giles, of Leeds; the Rev. W. Giles, sen., delivered the recognition prayer; and the Rev. J. Aeworth, A.M., president of Horton college, the address to the pastors. In the evening, at half-past six o'clock, at York street chapel, the Rev. W. F. Burchell, of Rochdale, read and prayed; the Rev. C. M. Birrell, of Liverpool, addressed the churches; and the Rev. C. Thompson closed with prayer. On Thursday, the 12th, there was a tea party in York street school room, which was very numerously attended. The Rev. John Davis, of Sheffield, gave a very interesting account of the revival of religion lately experienced at Port Mahon chapel in that town; addresses were also made by the Rev. Messrs J. E. Giles, Birrell, Voller, W. Giles, sen., Thompson, and Joseph Davis, The pastor presided.

A small steamer, will, we expect, be purchased for the use of the African mission under the care of our dear brother Clarke.—*Baptist Herald.*

ST ANDREW'S, FIFE.—The baptist church in this city, at the close of last year, unanimously invited Mr T. P. Henderson, late of Leeds, to the pastorate. The invitation has been accepted.

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 17, at the friends' meeting house, Rochdale, Mr HENRY MARTINDALE, of Liverpool, to MARY, third daughter of Mr James King, of Moss house, near Rochdale.

Jan. 17, at the friends' meeting house, Lancaster, Mr THOMAS WORNSSELL, of London, to ANN, only child of Mr John BUTTERWORTH, of Lancaster.

Jan. 24, at Stoke green meeting house, Ipswich, by Mr J. O. Francis, registrar of marriages, Mr ISAAC BASS, painter and glazier, to MARY ANNE, eldest daughter of Mr Wm BIXBY, both of Ipswich.

Jan. 18, at the independent chapel, Dawlish, the Rev. JAMES CRAGG, baptist minister, of Holt, Norfolk, to Miss ELIZA DANCH, of Sheldon, Devon.

DEATHS.

Jan. 25, at Banbury, of a rapid consumption, Mr JOHN RANN, in his 23rd year.

Jan. 17, aged 67 years, after a short illness, the Rev. S. CHAPPELL, of Castle Combe. He officiated as minister at the independent chapel of the above place, and in the surrounding villages, for many years. In his ministry he was made eminently useful, and his death is deeply regretted by a large circle of friends.

Jan. 25, at Manchester, SARAH KATE, the infant daughter of Richard CONDEN, Esq., M.P.

Jan. 28, MARY ANN, daughter of the Rev. T. HALL, of Crick, Northamptonshire, aged five years and four months.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, Jan. 20.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the 6th and 7th William IV., cap. 85:—

The New Jerusalem chapel, Haslington, Lancashire. Henry King, superintendent registrar.

The Baptist chapel, Prescott, Devonshire. William Rodham, superintendent registrar.

Hermon chapel, Hermon, Carmarthenshire. William Davies Phillips, superintendent registrar.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

GOVANNI, BATTISTA SALVI, of 10, Duke-street, Portland-place, wine merchant, March 25.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

BUSBY, ROBERT, Wood-street, Bethnal-green, dairyman.

BANKRUPTS.

BANCROFT, JOHN, Salford, Lancashire, grocer, Feb. 9, March 9; solicitors, Messrs Gregory and Go., Bedford-row, London, and Mr Makinson, Manchester.

BRIGHTMAN, THOMAS, Spalding, Lincolnshire, apothecary, Feb. 8, March 14; solicitors, Messrs Charles Bonner and Son, Spalding.

COLE, GEORGE, Bexley-heath, Kent, grocer, Feb. 3, March 10; solicitor, Mr Sadgrove, Mark-lane.

EMSON, JOHN, jun., Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, veterinary surgeon, Feb. 4, March 10; solicitor, Mr Lewis Henry Braham, 101, Chancery-lane.

GILLMAN, JEREMIAH, Stewkley, Buckinghamshire, grocer, Feb. 9, March 13; solicitor, Mr W. R. Buchanan, Basinghall st.

GOWING, JOHN SEAD, Lowestoft, Suffolk, grocer, Feb. 4, March 3; solicitors, Mr C. S. Gillman, Norwich, and Mr Storey, 5, Field court, Gray's-inn-square.

HAY, ALEXANDER, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, coachmaker, Feb. 3, March 10; solicitor, Mr J. B. May, Queen-square.

HIGHFIELD, SAMUEL, formerly of Liverpool, but now of Birkenhead, Cheshire, merchant, Feb. 13, March 7; solicitors, Messrs Mallaby and Townsend, Liverpool, and Messrs Chester and Toumlin, Staple-inn, London.

MOTRAM, CHARLES, Liverpool, Feb. 6, 28; solicitors, Messrs Cornthwaite and Adams, 3, Dean's-court, Doctor's-commons, London, and Messrs Fisher and Co., Liverpool.

ORBELL, JOHN, Brundon, Essex, miller, Feb. 11, March 3; solicitors, Mr T. Marston, Torrington-square, London, and Messrs Stedman, Sudbury, Suffolk.

PAYNE, RICHARD, 20, Hatton-wall, Hatton-garden, brassfounder, Feb. 10, March 10; solicitor, Mr L. H. Braham, Chancery-lane.

SIMPSON, THOMAS, Gateshead, Durham, painter, Feb. 6, March 10; solicitors, Messrs Crosby and Co., Church-court, Old-jewry, and Mr J. T. Hoyle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

WINTON, ALEXANDER, and DAVID, and WEBBER, JAMES, Wood-street, Cheapside, warehousemen, Feb. 14, March 13; solicitors, Messrs Reed and Shaw, Friday-street, Cheapside.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

ARBUCKLE, MATTHEW, Braehead, Ayrshire, cattle dealer, Feb. 1, 24.

BOYLE, WILLIAM, Glasgow, baker, Feb. 1, March 1.

COGHILL, FRANCIS, Glasgow, china and glass merchant, Feb. 3, 22.

BRATHER, GEORGE BENJAMIN, Edinburgh, timber merchant, Jan. 28, Feb. 18.

JOHNSTONE, ALEXANDER, late of Aberdeen, bookseller, but now of Inverness, book agent, Feb. 2, 23.

Tuesday, January 31.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSDED.

BUCKTHOUGHT, JOHN, East Looe, Cornwall, currier JONES, JANE, Carnarvon, woollen draper

BANKRUPTS.

AMES, ROBERT, Margate, linen draper, Feb. 11, March 10; solicitor, Mr Cox, Pinners' hall, Old Broad street.

BRADWELL, JOSEPH, York, ironmonger, Feb. 16, March 16; solicitor, Wood, York : Richardsons and Gold, York.

CARTWRIGHT, THOMAS, Heaton Norris, Lancashire, banker, Feb. 13, March 8; solicitors, Lingard, Vaughan, Lingard, Son, and Vaughan, Stockport, and Bower and Back, Chancery lane, London.

FENTON, FRANCIS, Little Peter street, Westminster, grocer, Feb. 10, March 10; solicitors, Messrs Lucas and Parkinson, Argyle square, Regent street.

JONES, JOHN, Liverpool, wine and spirit merchant, Feb. 8, March 7; solicitor, Robinson, Liverpool.

RIDSDALE, LEONARD, Leeds, stuff merchant, Feb. 13, March 6; solicitors, George and Rawson, Bradford.

ROBERTSON, DAVID, Liverpool, merchant, Feb. 9, March 14; solicitor, Watson, Liverpool.

RYMER, RICHARD, Manchester, house painter, Feb. 13, March 8; solicitors, Foster, King street, Manchester, and Lake and Waldron, Basinghall street, London.

TURNER, WILLIAM HENRY, and THOMAS BLUCHER, Blackburn, cotton spinners, Feb. 14, March 4; solicitors, Mr Grimstitch, Macclesfield; Messrs Slater and Heelis, Manchester; and Messrs Bell, Brodrick and Bell, Bow churchyard, London.

WOODS, WILLIAM, sen., and WILLIAM, jun., Newgate street, City, hardwaremen, Feb. 14, March 3; solicitor, Mr Goddard, King street, Cheapside.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

CRUIKSHANK, THOMAS, Aberdeen, innkeeper, Feb. 3, 24.

FEA, THOMAS, Lerwick, lately collector of the customs, February 7, 21.

LANG, MARY, and JANET, Edinburgh, letters of furnished lodgings, February 3, 23.

MATHEWS and ARTHUR, Glasgow, clothiers, Feb. 6, 25.

SMITH, JOHN, and SON, Glasgow, merchants, February 6, 28.

WEIR, JAMES, Auchinleck, farmer, Feb. 6, 24.

BRITISH FUNDS.

The prices of the public funds have kept up during the week, but not much business has been done. Money continues to be quite a drug in the market.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½
Ditto for Account.	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½
3 per cents Reduced	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
3½ per cts. Reduced	101½	101½	102	102	102½	102½
New 3½ per cent....	100½	101	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long Annuities...	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock.....	173	173½	173	173	172½	172½
India Stock.....	262	263				

THE NONCONFORMIST.

Linseed	per qr
English, sowing	48s. to 56s.
Baltic, ditto	— —
Ditto, crushing	42 .. 45
Medit. & Odessa	45 .. 46
Hempseed, small	35 .. 38
Large	46 .. 48
Canary, new	64 .. 65
Extra	65 .. 66
Caraway, old	— —
New	42 .. 44
Ryegrass, English	30 .. 42
Scotch	18 .. 40
Mustard	per bushel
Brown, new	9 .. 11
White	9 .. 10 6
Trefoil	18 .. 22
Old	12 .. 16
Tares, new	4 .. 5

Linseed	per qr
Clover	per cwt
English, red	40s. to 56s.
Ditto, white	42 .. 58
Flemish, red	42 .. 46
Ditto, white	— —
New Hamb., red	— —
Ditto, white	40 .. 60
Old Hamb., red	40 .. 43
Ditto, white	— —
French, red	40 .. 48
Ditto, white	50 .. 53
Coriander	10 .. 16
Old	16 .. 20
Rapeseed	per ton
Eng.ish, new	31L to 33L
Linseed cakes	— —
English	10L to 10L 10s.
Foreign	7L to 7L 10s.
Rapeseed cakes	5L 5s. to 6L

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Jan. 30.

The extreme mildness of the weather during last week had a depressing influence on the butter market. The demand for Irish was very limited. Prices may be considered 1s. to 2s. less than last quoted. Foreign in dull sale, Friesland, 106s. to 110s. Kiel, 100s. to 106s. For bacon there was more inquiry, and an increased business was done, the sellers submitting to a trifling reduction. Prices ruled from 31s. to 37s. landed, and on board as in quality and size. Bale and tierce middles sold to a fair extent, at from 30s. to 31s. landed, and from 30s. to 32s. on board. Hams moved rather better, at from 46s. to 56s. according to quality. Lard dull, at 52s. to 56s. bladder, and 46s. to 48s. kegs.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Jan. 30.

There is no alteration in the quotations as given by us last week, the market being firm for all descriptions of hops. The supply is not large, and many of the more wealthy holders keep back for higher prices.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Jan. 30.

Dullness was the leading feature to-day. The supply of beasts was limited and of inferior quality. Not a single head of foreign has been imported either in London or at the outports during the past week. The attendance of buyers was extremely scanty, and prices declined fully 2d. per 8lbs.

Price per stone of lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef	2s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.
Mutton	2 10 .. 4 2

Pork.....3 10 .. 4 8

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Beasts,	Sheep,	Calves,	Pigs,
Friday	345 ..	2,250 ..	419 ..
Monday	2,517 ..	25,450 ..	361 ..

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Jan. 30.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.

Inferior Beef	2s. 10d. to 3s. 0d.
Middle do	3 0 .. 3 2
Prime large	3 2 .. 3 4
Prime small	3 4 .. 3 6
Large Pork	3 6 .. 4 0

Inf. Mutton

3s. 0d. to 3s. 2d.

Mid. ditto

3 4 .. 3 6

Prime ditto

3 8 .. 3 10

Veal

4 4 .. 5 4

Small Pork

4 2 .. 4 6

POTATOES, BOROUGH, Monday, Jan. 30.

The arrivals during the past week amount to 1660 tons—viz.: from Yorkshire 525 tons, Scotland 650, Devons 165, Kent and Essex 115, Jersey and Guernsey 205.

York reds	50s. to 60s.
Scotch ditto	50 .. 55
Devons	50 .. 55

Kent, whites

40s. to 45s.

Guernsey ditto

40 .. 50

Wisbech

40 .. 45

COTTON.

The cotton market continues to be influenced by the prospect of an abundant supply, and prices have been 1d. per lb. lower. The sales of the week have been 26,680 bales. The stock is 481,000 bales, and was this time last year 463,000 bales.

WOOL.

We have not any alteration to notice in sales or prices this week. Prices are firm, but not equal to the quotations, for which the farmers are tenaciously holding. Consequently the supplies do not come to market so freely as usual, and stocks are not equal to an average at this season.

Down ewes	0s. 10d. to 0s. 10d.
Down teggs	0 11 .. 1 0
Wethers	0 10 .. 0 11

Hlf-bred hogs

1s. 0d. to 1s. 0d.

Flannelwool

0 8d .. 1 0

Blanket wool

0 5 .. 0 7d

Coarse Meadow	60s. to 75s.
New ditto	— —
Useful old ditto	84 .. 88
Fine Upland do	85 .. 90

NewCloverHay

80s. to 110s.

Old ditto

— —

Oat Straw

44 .. 46

Wheat Straw

46 .. 48

COAL EXCHANGE, Jan. 30.

Braddell's Hetton's, 20s.; Laughton's, 19s. 9d.; Stewart's, 19s. 9d.; Caradoc, 20s.; Hartlepool's, 20s.; Adelaide, 20s. 3d. Ships arrived this week, 41.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, JAN. 31.

TEA.—The market for tea has been firm; the demand has been good and full rates have been given. Sound common Connoisseur, for cash, could not be had under 1s. 3d. per lb.

COFFEE.—Importers of West India Coffee have submitted to a further reduction of 3s. per cwt. This afternoon the trade operated with extreme caution, and for shipping there are few orders for coffee; holders of all descriptions are desirous to sell.

SUGAR.—A reduction has taken place of 1s. to 1s. 6d. per cwt for low yellow and brown sorts; good and fine yellow kinds have been disposed of at easier rates. The rates accepted for British plantation were rather under those of Friday, and the supply is large. Barbadoes sugar went off at full rates, and all sold.

TALLOW.—Prices have further given way; 46s. to 46s. 3d. is the value of P. Y. candle on the spot, and 44s. 6d. to 45s. per cwt for autumn.

Advertisements.

CITY TEA WAREHOUSE, 2, BUCKLERSBURY, CHEAPSIDE.—The System adopted at this Establishment is to supply the Public with TEAS and COFFEES at the wholesale prices for Cash.

This arrangement will, it is presumed, be of immense advantage to large consumers, who will be enabled to purchase on the same terms as the Trade, and thus save a second profit.

BLACK TEAS.

Common Tea, from 3s. Good Sound Congou from 3 8

A good Family Tea for general use.

Strong Rough-flavoured ditto

4 0

This Tea we strongly recommend as a sterling Family Tea.

Rich Pekoe Souchong, 4s. 4d. The Finest imported 5 0

GREEN TEAS.

Good Common Green 3s. 8d. Hyson kind

4 0

Hyson Tea

4 4

The Finest Hyson

6 0

Fine Young Hyson

5 4

Gunpowder Tea

6 0

The Finest Gunpowder

7 0

COFFEE.

The alteration in the tariff induces us to pay particular attention to this article, and we quote the following Prices, by which it will be seen that we have made AN IMMENSE REDUCTION.

Common Coffee 9d. to 1s. 0d. Good useful ditto 1 2

Good Ceylon (recommended) 1 4 Finest ditto 1 6

This will be found on trial a very excellent Coffee, indeed few

Families would require a better.

Finest Java 1s. 8d. Finest West India Coffee 1 10

The Finest old Mocha

2 0

Much has been said about Mocha, yet few persons have tasted

Real Mocha, from the very high price it has hitherto been retailed to the public. The Connoisseur will find this a treat.

The best Cocoa .. 8d. Soluble Cocoa 9d.

Soluble Chocolate .. 1s.

MANSELL and Co., 2, Bucklersbury, Cheapside.

All Goods must be paid for on delivery.

WANTED, by a respectable middle-aged Female, a Situation, either as COMPANION to a LADY, or to superintend the Domestic Affairs of a Family. Most satisfactory references can be given. Letters addressed to P. P., Post Office, Tamworth, Warwickshire.

WANTED immediately, an active and obliging YOUTH, as an Apprentice to the Woolen and Linen Drapery Business. He would have every attention paid to his morals and domestic comfort, &c. Address, E. KEMP and SON, Drapers, &c., Uppingham, Rutland.

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